

# ARMY



# NAVY

GAZETTE OF THE  
REGULAR

## JOURNAL.

AND VOLUNTEER  
FORCES.

[VOLUME XV.—NUMBER 36  
WHOLE NUMBER 734.]

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1878.

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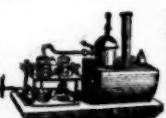
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## ABSTRACT OF IMPORTANT ORDERS.

G. O. 2, DEPT. TEXAS, Jan. 22, 1878.

I. A District is constituted, to be called the "District of the Pecos," to include Fort Concho and the country watered by affluence of the Concho river west of that post, also all that part of the State bounded as follows: Along the 101st meridian extending south from Concho river to parallel of latitude 31 deg. north, along that parallel west to meridian line 102 deg. west, along that meridian south to parallel of latitude 30 deg. north, along that parallel west to meridian line of 103 deg. west, and along that meridian south to the Rio Bravo, and up that stream to the meridian of 105 deg. west, up that to the northwest line of Texas, and along that to the 101st meridian. Colonel B. H. Grierson, 10th Cavalry, will command the District; his Hdqrs, for the present, will be at Fort Concho.

II. That part of Texas north of latitude 30 deg. 30 min. and east of the 101st meridian not included in the District of the Pecos will compose a new District, to be called the "District of North Texas," to the command of which Colonel H. B. Clitz, 10th Infantry, is assigned.

## STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

A. A. Surg. A. C. Bergen, to Fort Snelling, Minn., to accompany detachment of recruits for the 5th Infantry now at that post en route to Fort Keogh. Upon completion of this service to Fort Buford (S. O. 11, Jan. 21, D. D.).

A. A. Surg. B. B. G. McPhail, to Prescott, A. T. (S. O. 13, Jan. 21, M. D. P.).

1st Lieut. J. C. Ayers, Ord. Dept., to duty at Fort A. Lincoln, D. T. (S. O. 8, Jan. 29, M. D. M.).

DETACHED SERVICE.

Major D. G. Swain, J. A., to Washington, D. C. (S. O. 15, Jan. 25, D. M.).

Capt. C. McClure, U. S., to temporary duty as Purchasing and Depot C. S., Washington, D. C. (S. O., Jan. 23, W. D.).

Major C. G. Sawtelle, Chief Q. M., to Ft. McHenry and Fort Coote, Md. (S. O. 16, Jan. 21, D. E.).

Major H. B. Reese, P. D., to Chicago, and thence, via St. Paul to Fort Buford (S. O. 11, Jan. 21, D. D.).

A. A. Surg. H. A. Duncanson, to El Paso, Texas, for duty with troops in the field at that point (S. O. 8, Jan. 19, D. N. M.).

A. Surg. J. B. Girard, M. D., member G. C. M. Fort Wayne, Mich., Jan. 30 (S. O. 17, Jan. 23, D. E.).

A. Surg. J. D. Hall, M. D., member G. C. M. Fort Independence, Mass., Jan. 28 (S. O. 18, Jan. 24, D. E.).

A. Surg. E. Woodruff, M. D., member G. C. M. Fort Davis, Tex., Jan. 28 (S. O. 16, Jan. 21, D. T.).

Capt. F. W. Elbrey, Asst. Surg., member G. C. M. Oglethorpe Bks, Savannah, Ga., Jan. 18 (S. O. 10, Jan. 15, D. S.).

A. A. Surg. B. F. Kingsley will report to the C. O. battalion 20th Infantry for duty with it to Fort Clark. Upon arrival of battalion at that post, Surg. Kingsley will return to San Antonio for annulment of contract (S. O. 16, Jan. 21, D. T.).

A. Surg. W. E. Waters will relieve A. Surg. H. S. Turill of the duties of post surgeon, and, during the illness of Asst. Surg. M. K. Taylor, will perform the duties of attending surgeon to officers and families (S. O. 17, Jan. 23, D. T.).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

A. Surg. H. O. Paulding, extended three months (S. O., Jan. 26, W. D.).

PAYMENT OF TROOPS.

Major W. B. Rochester, P. D., will pay the troops at Chattanooga, Tenn., and Newport Bas, Newport, Ky., on the muster and pay rolls of Dec. 31, 1877 (S. O. 8, Jan. 12, D. S.).

Major N. Vadder, P. D., will pay troops stationed at Fort Birransas, Fla., on the muster and pay rolls of Dec. 31, 1877 (S. O. 15, Jan. 23, D. S.).

TO JOIN.

A. A. Surg. C. E. McChesney, to join his station at Fort Sisseton (S. O. 11, Jan. 21, D. D.).

NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF.

Hosp. Steward F. L. Bishop, from McPherson Bks, Atlanta, Ga., to Key West Bks, Fla. (S. O. 13, Jan. 21, D. S.).

Com. Sergt. L. Hineman, to San Diego, Cal. (S. O., Jan. 26, W. D.).

Com. Sergt. F. H. De Castro (recently appointed from Co. B, 5th Cavalry), will proceed to Camp Sheridan, Neb. (S. O., Jan. 25, W. D.).

S. O. 13, from these Hdqrs, relieving Hosp. Steward F. L. Bishop from duty at McPherson Bks, Atlanta, Ga., and directing him to proceed to Key West Bks, Fla., as revoked. Hosp. Steward W. P. Marshall, from duty at McPherson Bks, Atlanta, Ga., to Key West Bks, Fla. (S. O. 15, Jan. 23, D. S.).

THE LINE.

1ST CAVALRY, Colonel Cuvier Grover.—Headquarters, and E. F. H. L. Fort Walla Walla, W. T.; C. Camp Bidwell, Cal.; B. Fort Klamath, Oregon; I. Camp Halleck, Nev.; A. K. Camp Harney, Or.; M. Fort Colville, Wash. T.; D. Presidio, Cal.; G. Fort Boise, I. T.

Leave of Absence.—Capt. J. G. Trimble, Fort Walla

Walla, W. T., two months on Surg. certificate (S. O. 13, Jan. 21, M. D. P.).

Transfers.—2d Lieut. W. H. Miller from Co. E to D; 2d Lieut. H. E. Tuthery from Co. D to E (S. O., Jan. 25, W. D.).

2ND CAVALRY, Colonel I. N. Palmer.—Headquarters and C. D. E. M. Fort Custer, M. T.; A. B. E. I. Fort Keogh; F. G. H. L. Fort Ellis, M. T.

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of one month, 1st Lieut. J. L. Fowler, R. Q. M. Fort Custer (S. O. 12, Jan. 23, D. D.).

Company Gardens.—The following is the full text of the letter referred to last week:

FORT ELLIS, M. T., January 2, 1878.

General W. T. Sherman, Commanding U. S. A.:

GENERAL: I beg leave to invite your attention to the enclosed reports of company gardens at Fort Ellis, Montana, for the year just ending. The troops stationed at this post have been, for two years past, constantly in the field during all the summer, or growing months; yet both seasons we have had excellent gardens. The amount of perishable stuff was enormous, and is not noticed in the reports. All the vegetables raised are of the best quality, the potatoes being especially fine, and so mealy, when boiled, that they fall to pieces at the touch of a knife. They grow to enormous size, and the skins crack open when cooking, showing a fine dry mealy substance within. To prevent them from growing too large we plant the seed very thickly. All kinds of vegetables can be raised in this part of Montana, and in the greatest abundance; indeed, I have never seen a better soil for growing either cereals or roots. One of the potatoes raised in the garden of Co. H weighed four pounds, another from Co. F three pounds four ounces. The within report does not include the stuff raised at the post in the post hospital garden. The yield was quite large, and the vegetables very fine. I have never seen better cauliflower, onions, turnips and cabbages than those grown in the gardens here. The parsnips are probably the best in the United States. I did not eat this vegetable until I came to Montana, but there is a peculiar flavor about the Montana parsnip which makes it a very pleasant eating food.

So far as living is concerned this is certainly one of the best stations for cavalry in the country and the cheap eat to supply; the average price of oats being 14 cents per bushel (48 cents per bushel), hay ten dollars per ton, flour three dollars and thirty cents per hundred weight. Fort Ellis is located at the head of the Gallatin, one of the greatest farming valleys anywhere in the west.

I venture the assertion that the troops here are the best fed in the United States Army. I enclose the dinner reports for yesterday and also the average dinner reports of the officers of the day for the several companies during the month of December. We have had no desertions for a long time from the troops stationed at this post, and I attribute it in a great measure to the manner in which the soldiers are fed and cared for. The utmost satisfaction and content prevails, and while discipline is strictly maintained the officers do not forget that soldiers, like themselves, are men, and should have granted to them every privilege consistent with the good of the service.

Knowing the great interest you have in the welfare of your soldiers, I take the liberty of forwarding to you the enclosed report for your personal consideration; not doubting it will give you great pleasure. I have the honor, etc.

JAS. S. BRISBIN, Major 2d Cavalry, Comdg. Post.

Consolidated Report of Vegetables raised in Company Gardens at Fort Ellis, M. T., During the Season of 1877.

Company.	Regiment.	No. of Acres.	Potatoes.	Onions.	Turnips.	Carrots.	Beets.	Parsnips.	Salsify.	Cabbage.
3d Cav.	7th	7 1/2	1,100	90	500	60	50	10		8,000
C	"	5	550	60	60	35	15	20		2,500
H	"	6	1,200	120	35	40	40	25		3,800
L	"	5	700	60	150	25				2,300
G 7th Inf.	3	8 1/2	815	6	40	12		20	3	800
Total....	26 1/2	3,965	3,965	396	785	172	105	75	3	12,500

I certify that the above is a correct consolidated report of the returns of company commanders to the post commander of their gardens for the year 1877. The value of the several articles if they had been bought here would be about as follows: Potatoes, \$3,865.00; onions, \$2,352.00; turnips, \$725.00; carrots, \$260.40; beets, \$315.00; parsnips, \$235.00; salsify, \$9.40; cabbage, \$1,250.00; total, \$9,007.80.

JAS. S. BRISBIN, Major 2d Cavalry, Comdg. Post.

3RD CAVALRY, Col. Thos. C. Devin.—Headquarters, and A. B. E. K. Fort Laramie, W. T.; I. Fort Fetterman, W. T.; C. Camp Robinson, Neb.; G. Camp Sheridan, Neb.; D. Fort Sanders, W. T.; E. L. New Red Cloud Agency, D. T.; H. M. New Spotted Tail Agency, D. T.

Detached Service.—Capt. H. W. Wessells, Jr., 1st Lieut. R. E. Whitman, 2d Lieut. F. H. Hardie, G. W. Baxter, members, and 2d Lieut. F. Schwatka, J. A. of G. C. M. Spotted Tail Agency, D. T., Jan. 30 (S. O. 13, Jan. 23, D. D.).

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. J. C. Thompson, three months (S. O., Jan. 23, W. D.).

Monument to Capt. McKee.—We learn from Lieut. A. H. Russell, Ordnance Corps, U. S. A., West Point, N. Y., that the monument in memory of Capt. Alex. McKee has been completed at a total expense of \$200, all of which has been subscribed.

4TH CAVALRY, Col. R. S. Mackenzie.—Headquarters, and A. C. D. K. L. M. San Antonio, Tex.; G. H. Fort Reno, I. T.; E. Fort Sill, I. T.; I. Camp Supply, I. T.; B. F. Fort Elliott, Tex.

Detached Service.—2d Lieut. H. H. Bellas, member, and 1st Lieut. D. A. Irwin, J. A. of G. C. M. Fort Sill, Ind. T., Jan. 28 (S. O. 11, Jan. 21, D. M.).

Capt. J. Rendlebrock, S. Gunther, 1st Lieut. H. Sweeney, 2d Lieut. W. E. Wilder, members, G. C. M. Fort Reno, Ind. T., Feb. 6 (S. O. 14, Jan. 24, D. M.).

5TH CAVALRY, Col. W. Merritt.—Headquarters, and A. B. F. H. I. Fort D. A. Russell, W. T.; C. E. M. Fort McKinney, W. T.; D. Sidney Bks, Neb.; L. Fort McPherson, Neb.; G. K. Camp Brown, W. T.

Detached Service.—Co. F, now en route from detached service at Fort Hall, Idaho, will, on its arrival at Fort Fred. Steele, W. T., take temporary station thereat (S. O. 6, Jan. 19, D. P.).

6TH CAVALRY, Col. James Oakes.—Headquarters and C. G. M. Camp Grant, A. T.; B. Camp Lowell, A. T.; K. Fort Whipple, A. T.; H. L. Camp Bowie, A. T.; E. D. Camp Apache, A. T.; A. Camp Verde, A. T.; I. Camp McJannet, A. T.; F. Camp Thomas, A. T.

In camp near old Camp Walla, A. T.



**7TH CAVALRY**, Colonel S. D. Sturgis.—Headquarters, and A. D. E. G. H. I. K. L. M. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.; C. F. Ft. Totten, D. T.; B. Standing Rock Agency, D. T.

*Leave of Absence*.—One year, with permission to go beyond sea, Capt. H. J. Nowlan (S. O., Jan. 28, W. D.).

**8TH CAVALRY**, Col. J. I. Gregg.—Headquarters and A. G. H. Ringgold Barracks, Tex.; C. D. I. L. M. Fort Brown, Tex.; A. B. F. E. Fort Clark, Tex.

**9TH CAVALRY**, Col. Edward Hatch.—Headquarters, Santa Fe, N. M.; D. E. Fort Union, N. M.; L. Fort Bliss, Tex.; K. Fort Garland, C. T.; F. H. M. Ft. Stanton, N. M.; A. B. C. G. Fort Bayard, N. M.; I. Fort Wingate, N. M.

**10TH CAVALRY**, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.—Headquarters and D. L. Ft. Concho, Tex.; A. G. I. Fort Sill, I. T.; H. Fort Davis, Tex.; B. Fort Duncan, Tex.; E. San Felipe, Tex.; F. K. M. Ft. Clark, Tex.; C. Ft. McKavett, Tex.

**1ST ARTILLERY**, Col. Israel Vogdes.—Headquarters and B. E. F. K. Fort Adams, R. I.; A. I. Fort Warren, Mass.; C. M. Fort Trumbull, Conn.; H. Fort Preble, Me.; D. L. Fort Independence, Mass.; G. Fort Monroe, Va.

*Detached Service*.—Capt. A. M. Randol, T. Ward, 1st Lieut. J. C. White, F. C. Nichols, 2d Lieut. T. C. Patterson, members, and 1st Lieut. R. H. Patterson, J. A. of G. C. M. Fort Independence, Mass., Jan. 28 (S. O. 18, Jan. 24, D. E.).

1st Lieut. A. H. Merrill, member, and 1st Lieut. L. A. Chamberlain, J. A. of G. C. M. Fort Monroe, Va., Jan. 29 (S. O. 19, Jan. 25, D. E.).

*Leave of Absence*.—Ten days, 2d Lieut. J. S. Oyster, Fort Adams, R. I. (S. O. 19, Jan. 25, D. E.).

**2ND ARTILLERY**.—Colonel William F. Barry.—Headquarters and A. D. M. Fort McHenry, Md.; C. Fort Johnston, N. C.; E. F. G. L. San Antonio, Tex.; K. Fort Monroe, Va.; I. Washington, D. C.; B. Fort Poote, Md.

*Detached Service*.—Major J. C. Tidball, Capt. J. H. Calef, 2d Lieut. V. H. Bridgman, members, G. C. M. Fort Monroe, Va., Jan. 29 (S. O. 19, Jan. 25, D. E.).

**3RD ARTILLERY**, Col. George W. Getty.—Headquarters and C. D. L. M. Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H.; A. Ft. Monroe, Va.; E. I. Fort Wadsworth, N. Y. H.; B. Fort Niagara, N. Y.; F. Fort Ontario, N. Y.; H. Madison Bks, N. Y.; K. Plattsburg Bks, N. Y.; G. Fort Schuyler, N. Y.

*Detached Service*.—Capt. E. Gittings, J. G. Turnbull, 1st Lieut. G. A. Thurston, J. M. Califf, 2d Lieut. J. R. Williams, H. Dowd, Additional 2d Lieut. F. P. Blair, Jr., members, and 1st Lieut. C. Humphreys, J. A. of G. C. M. Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., Jan. 25 (S. O. 17, Jan. 23, D. E.).

Major G. A. De Russy to Fort Ontario, N. Y. (S. O. 17, Jan. 23, D. E.).

1st Lieut. J. O'Hara and J. D. C. Hoskins, members, G. C. M. Fort Monroe, Va., Jan. 29 (S. O. 19, Jan. 25, D. E.).

*Frozen to Death*.—A despatch from Montreal, Jan. 30, reports that "an American soldier named William Mead, tramping his way to Plattsburg from this city, was frozen to death at Windmill Point, near the line, on the night of the 24th inst., after being refused shelter at two houses. His body was found next morning within fifty feet of a fire. Mead came here with a comrade on a spree two weeks ago, and having spent all his money preferred walking home to deserting. His partner did not go back."

**4TH ARTILLERY**, Col. W. H. French.—Headquarters, B. C. E. L. Presidio, Cal.; H. K. Alcatraz Isl., Cal.; M. Fort Stevens, Or.; D. G. Fort Canby, Wash. T.; I. Fort Monroe, Va.; A. Fort Townsend, W. T.; F. Ft. San Jose, Cal.

*Change of Station*.—Com. Sergt. L. Hineman, recently appointed from 1st Sergt. Bat. L, to San Diego, Cal. (S. O., Jan. 26, W. D.).

*Detached Service*.—2d Lieut. C. Deems, member, G. C. M. Fort Monroe, Va., Jan. 29 (S. O. 19, Jan. 25, D. E.).

**5TH ARTILLERY**, Col. Henry J. Hunt.—Headquarters and E. F. I. Charleston, S. C.; A. K. St. Augustine, Fla.; B. L. M. Fort Barrancas, Fla.; G. H. Fort Brooke, Fla.; C. Fort Monroe, Va.; D. Savannah, Ga.

*Detached Service*.—Major G. P. Andrews, Capt. J. B. Rawles, 1st Lieut. S. A. Day, 2d Lieut. W. B. Homer, W. W. Galbraith, members, and 1st Lieut. F. Robinson, J. A. of G. C. M. Oglethorpe Bks, Savannah, Ga., Jan. 18 (S. O. 10, Jan. 15, D. S.).

Capt. W. F. Randolph, 2d Lieut. J. M. Baldwin, member, G. C. M. Fort Monroe, Va., Jan. 29 (S. O. 19, Jan. 25, D. E.).

*A Brilliant Wedding*.—The marriage of Miss Sallie Shoemaker, daughter of Mr. S. M. Shoemaker of Baltimore, to Lieut. Chas. Ridgely Barnett, was the occasion of a brilliant ceremonial. Fully 2,000 people, including visitors from New York, Boston, Chicago, Buffalo, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Richmond and Washington, crowded the Emanuel Protestant Episcopal Church, Baltimore, on the evening of the wedding, Wednesday, Jan. 30. The specially invited guests included many Army officers, all of whom appeared in full uniform. Among the guests were President Hayes, Attorney General Devens and P. M. General Key, General Sherman and staff, Generals Schofield, Barry, Barnard, Tower and Wright, Colonels Samuel Benjamin and E. R. Warner, Majors J. C. Breckenridge and C. W. Wingard, Lieutenants Craig, J. M. Baldwin and W. P. Edgerton. The bridal party entered in the following order: Miss Blanche Shoemaker, attended by Lieut. Alexander L. Morton, U. S. A.; Miss Miriam Shoemaker, attended by Lieut. Benjamin K. Roberts, U. S. A.; Miss Nellie Shoemaker, attended by Lieut. John McClellan, U. S. A.; Miss Mary McCormick, attended by Lieut. David D. Johnson, U. S. A.; Miss Mary Brant, attended by Lieut. Edgar W. Bass, of the Engineers; Miss Mary Matthews, attended by Lieut. William H. Coffin, U. S. A.; Mrs. Shoemaker, with Lieut. Barnett, and lastly, the bride leaning on the arm of her father, while a colored servant, bent with the weight of 93 years, Aunt Gracie, who nursed Mrs. Shoemaker in her babyhood and her children also, and who cared for the bride in her infant days, followed last, carrying an expensive train of silk and lace that spread for yards in the rear. The bridesmaids wore white

trimmed with pink roses. The bride wore white with orange flowers, and a bridal veil and diamonds. The grooms were in full uniforms.

**1ST INFANTRY**.—Colonel Thomas G. Pitcher.—Headquarters and A. C. E. I. Ft. Randall, D. T.; B. G. Lower Brule Agency, H. K. Fort Sully, D. T.; D. P. Standing Rock Agency, D. T.

*Detached Service*.—1st Lieut. R. G. Heiner, 2d Lieut. L. Wilhelm, members, G. C. M. Spotted Tail Agency, D. T., Jan. 30 (S. O. 13, Jan. 23, D. D.).

*Leave Extended*.—Capt. I. D. De Russy, two months (S. O., Jan. 28, W. D.).

**2ND INFANTRY**, Colonel Frank Wheaton.—Headquarters and A. B. D. F. G. Fort Lapwai, I. T.; C. K. Mt. Idaho, I. T.; H. I. Spokane Falls, I. T.; E. Fort Colville, W. T.

**3RD INFANTRY**, Colonel De L. Floyd-Jones.—Headquarters and A. C. E. F. K. Helena, M. T.; B. D. H. I. Missoula City, M. T.; G. Camp Baker, M. T.

*Change of Station*.—1st Lieut. D. A. Griffith, at present at Fort Hall, Idaho, will report for duty to the C. O. of that post. He will be sent forward to his regiment in Montana, as early in the coming spring as practicable (S. O. 7, Jan. 23, M. D. M.).

*The Telephone*.—Lieut. Philip Reade is entertaining the good people of San Diego, Cal., with his lectures on the telephone.

*The March of the Third*.—"In the issue of your paper of the 5th inst.," writes a correspondent, "appears a statement under the caption 'Worse than Valley Forge,' which in many particulars is erroneous. The writer thereof was not with the regiment (the 3d Inf.) on its march from Corinne to Helena, and has been misinformed. The hardships suffered by the command were simply those incident to a march in this section of the country at the season of the year it took place; and such only as soldiers, similarly situated, expect. Indeed, until our arrival at Ryan's Station—about 135 miles from here—the weather had been exceptionally fine and mild, for the season, and no discomfort worth mentioning had been experienced. There, indeed, we had a 'cold snap,' but both men and officers being well supplied with clothing, their suffering from the severity of the weather was not extraordinary, nor different, probably, from that which many of the regiment had experienced before. The command was well supplied with transportation, and its comfort as well looked to as circumstances would permit of. It would be idle, of course, to assert that the intense cold at Ryan's did not produce some suffering—particularly among troops recently stationed at the extreme South—but what I wish to convey is, that it was of brief duration, and not greater than that frequently met with by similarly situated, and similarly well appointed troops."

**4TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Franklin F. Flint.—Headquarters and G. K. Fort Bridger, W. T.; A. Fort Fred. Steele, W. T.; C. Fort Fetterman, W. T.; D. Omaha Bks, Neb.; B. E. I. Cantonment Reno, W. T.; H. Camp Stambaugh; F. Fort Sanders, W. T.

*Leave of Absence*.—2d Lieut. J. J. O'Brien is authorized to avail himself of the leave of absence granted him in S. O. 108, from M. D. M. (S. O. 6, Jan. 19, D. P.). Six months, on Surg. certificate, 2d Lieut. R. H. Young (S. O., Jan. 24, W. D.).

**5TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Nelson A. Miles.—Headquarters and A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. Ft. Keogh, M. T.

**6TH INFANTRY**, Colonel William B. Hazen.—Headquarters and E. F. G. I. Ft. Buford, D. T.; A. Fort Rice, D. T.; B. Ft. Abraham Lincoln, D. T.; H. K. Fort Stevenson, D. T.; C. Glendive, M. T.; D. Fort Peck, M. T.

**7TH INFANTRY**, Col. John Gibbon.—Headquarters, and A. B. C. H. I. K. Fort Shaw, M. T.; G. Fort Killa, M. T.; D. E. Camp Baker, M. T.; F. Fort Benton, M. T.

*A Runaway Son*.—In the list of the killed in an engagement between United States forces and the Nez Percés Indians last summer there appeared the name of Edmund Bradley, of Fort Benton, and it has just been ascertained that this was the son of a gentleman named Richardson, who removed to New Haven some time ago from Norwich. The son left some eight or ten years ago on account of some slight error, and until last September there was no trace of him. The Norwich Bulletin says that Mr. and Mrs. Richardson were both of them people of fine taste and feelings and highly respected. Parental love and solicitude had been unusually vigilant to trace the boy, but the only clue ascertained was that simple announcement in the death-list. A letter written by Capt. Constant Williams, of the 7th Inf., to Edmund Bradley Richardson, described the appearance of the young man, which was identical with that of the missing son, and added further, that "one of his friends told me that he had several times seen him write 'Edmund Bradley Richardson, New Haven, Conn.," and that Bradley told him that before he left home his knee was badly injured and that he was cured by Dr. Sweet, who came from a distance to attend him." The letter added the details of a severe fight with the Indians, in which Bradley perished bravely fighting, shot through the head. A later letter informs the parents of evidences of a careful education observed in the young man, which struck those who met him, and that he was always a welcome visitor at his Captain's tent. The Fort Benton Record of Dec. 13 states that the remains of young Bradley, as he was called, having been exhumed and brought to that town, were buried with military honors on the 8th of that month.—N. Y. Times.

**8TH INFANTRY**, Col. August V. Kautz.—Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.; F. Fort Whipple, A. T.; A. B. Camp Verde, A. T.; C. Camp McDowell, A. T.; K. Camp Lowell, A. T.; E. G. Camp Apache, A. T.; H. San Diego, Cal.; I. Cp. Grant, A. T.; D. Camp Thomas, A. T.

*Leave Extended*.—1st Lieut. W. H. McMinn, Camp Lowell, A. T., one month (S. O. 11, Jan. 17, M. D. P.).

**9TH INFANTRY**, Col. John H. King.—Headquarters and B. G. H. I. Omaha Barrack, Neb.; E. Cantonment Reno, W. T.; F. Fort McPherson, Neb.; C. Camp at Cheyenne Depot, W. T.; D. Sidney Bks, Neb.; K. Fort Sanders, W. T.

**10TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Henry B. Clitz.—Headquarters and A. B. C. F. I. Fort McKavett, Texas; D. Fort McIntosh, Tex.; E. Fort Richardson, Tex.; G. H. K. Fort Clark, Tex.

*Detached Service*.—1st Lieut. E. O. Gibson, Adjt., J. A. of G. C. M. Fort Clark, to report at these Hdqrs. with all papers relating to the case of 1st Lieut. M. W. Saxton, 24th Inf. (S. O. 15, Jan. 19, D. T.).

**11TH INFANTRY**, Colonel William H. Wood.—Headquarters and A. D. E. G. I. K. Cheyenne Agency, D. T.; H. Fort Keogh, M. T.; B. C. F. Post No. 2, M. T.

*Leave of Absence*.—One month, to apply for extension of two months, 2d Lieut. F. W. Mansfield, Cheyenne Agency, D. T. (S. O. 11, Jan. 21, D. D.).

Six months, 2d Lieut. R. W. Hoyt (S. O., Jan. 23, W. D.).

**12TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.—Headquarters and C. D. F. Angel Island, Cal.; A. Camp Mojave, A. T.; E. Camp Gaston, Cal.; G. Camp Bidwell, Cal.; I. Camp McDermitt, Nev.; H. Camp Halleck, Nev.; B. K. Benicia Bks, Cal.

**13TH INFANTRY**, Colonel P. R. de Trobriand.—Headquarters and A. D. H. I. Jackson Bks, La.; B. F. K. Baton Rouge Bks, La.; C. E. Little Rock Bks, Ark.; G. Mount Vernon, Ala.

*G. C. M.*—In the case of Private F. Carney, Co. C, the proceedings, findings and sentence are approved. While approving of the sentence, the Commanding General regrets that he cannot quite approve of the manner of the proceeding of the officer concerned in this affair. He appears to have lost his temper, and to have used language that, even the provocation offered, cannot justify. Officers should learn that it is worse than folly ever to give orders to a soldier when drunk. Whenever soldiers in that condition require attention from an officer, he should always send for a guard to take charge of the offender, and never, except to prevent an outrage upon persons or property, should he meddle with them in any other way. The sentence will be duly carried into effect. The Leavenworth Military Prison is designated as the place of confinement (G. C. M. O. 17, D. G.).

**14TH INFANTRY**, Col. John E. Smith.—Headquarters and D. E. F. G. I. Camp Douglas, Utah; A. Fort Hall, Idaho; B. C. H. Fort Cameron, U. T.; K. Fort Hartland.

**15TH INFANTRY**, Col. Geo. A. Woodward.—Headquarters and D. K. Ft. Wingate, N. M.; B. Ft. Garland, C. T.; A. G. Fort Craig, N. M.; F. Ft. Union, N. M.; E. Fort Bayard, N. M.; H. Fort Stanton, N. M.; I. Fort Marcy, N. M.; C. Fort Bliss, Tex.

*Detached Service*.—1st Lieut. D. H. Clark will proceed from Fort Bliss, Tex., to Fort Selden, N. M., and temporarily relieve 1st Lieut. W. O. Cory of his duties as A. A. Q. M. and A. C. S., to enable him to proceed to Fort Craig, N. M. (S. O. 7, Jan. 16, D. N. M.).

*Leave of Absence*.—Six months, to take effect when his services can be spared, Capt. H. Jewett (S. O., Jan. 28, W. D.).

**16TH INFANTRY**, Colonel G. Pennypacker.—Headquarters and A. C. H. Fort Riley, Kas.; E. I. Fort Reno, I. T.; B. D. Fort Sill, I. T.; G. Fort Hays, Kas.; K. Fort Gibson, I. T.; F. Fort Wallace, Kas.

*Detached Service*.—Capt. A. W. Allyn, H. A. Theaker, 1st Lieut. S. K. Mahon, C. H. Noble, 2d Lieut. S. R. Whittall, W. Lassiter, members, G. C. M. Fort Sill, Ind. T., Jan. 28 (S. O. 11, Jan. 21, D. M.). Capt. S. Fletcher, Jr., 1st Lieut. T. W. Morrison, 2d Lieut. W. C. McFarland, members, and Capt. W. H. Clapp, J. A. of G. C. M. Fort Reno, Ind. T., Feb. 6 (S. O. 14, Jan. 24, D. M.).

**17TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Thomas L. Crittenden.—Headquarters and B. D. I. Standing Rock Agency, D. T.; G. Fort Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.; H. Fort Rice, D. T.; A. Fort Sisseton, D. T.; C. Fort Totten, D. T.; E. E. Fort Pembina, D. T.; F. Fort Snelling, Minn.

*Leave of Absence*.—Twenty days, 1st Lieut. J. Chance, Fort A. Lincoln, D. T. (S. O. 12, Jan. 23, D. D.).

**18TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Thomas H. Ruger.—Headquarters and B. C. D. E. F. G. K. McPherson Bks, Atlanta, Ga.; H. I. Newport Bks, Ky.; A. Chattanooga, Tenn.

*Detached Service*.—Capt. J. Kline, J. K. Hyer, C. Durham, 1st Lieut. W. A. Miller, R. F. Bates, H. H. Benner, 2d Lieut. J. Anderson, members, and 2d Lieut. W. S. Patten, J. A. of G. C. M. McPherson Bks, Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 21 (S. O. 12, Jan. 18, D. S.).

*Social*.—"Weekly hops," writes a correspondent, "are now being enjoyed by the officers and ladies of McPherson Barracks, which are delightfully enjoyable. With a rare galaxy of beautiful and accomplished ladies, and one of the finest bands in the service, the gallant officers of the 18th possess social advantages much superior to any post in the South."

*Medical*.—Surgeon W. H. Forwood, U. S. A., has won extended professional fame by his successful treatment of the very delicate case of Private Smith, whose permanent injuries will be trifling.

**19TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Charles H. Smith.—Headquarters and E. H. K. Ft. Lyon, C. T.; F. G. Ft. Dodge, Kas.; D. Fort Larned, Kas.; C. I. Fort Elliott, Tex.; A. B. Camp Supply, I. T.

**20TH INFANTRY**, Colonel Geo. Sykes.—Headquarters and B. D. G. I. K. San Antonio, Tex.; A. C. E. F. H. Fort Clark, Tex.

**21ST INFANTRY**, Colonel Alfred Sully.—Headquarters and B. D. E. G. H. I. Fort Vancouver, W. T.; K. Camp Harney, Or.; C. Ft. Townsend, W. T.; F. Fort Klamath, Or.; A. Fort Boise, I. T.

**22ND INFANTRY**, Colonel David S. Stanley.—Headquarters and A. C. D. H. Fort Wayne, Mich.; F. K. Fort Brady, Mich.; B. G. Fort Porter, N. Y.; E. Fort Mackinac, Mich.; I. Fort Gratiot, Mich.

*Detached Service*.—1st Lieut. G. S. L. Ward, A. D. C., to Philadelphia, Penn. (S. O. 19, Jan. 25, D. E.).

Capt. J. B. Irvine, De W. C. Poole, 1st Lieut. T. H. Fisher, 2d Lieut. O. M. Smith, O. D. Ladley, A. C. Sharpe, members, and 1st Lieut. H. H. Ketchum, Adjt., J. A. of G. C. M. Fort Wayne, Mich., Jan. 30 (S. O. 17, Jan. 23, D. E.).

Lieut.-Col. E. S. Otis to Fort Gratiot, Mich. (S. O. 16, Jan. 21, D. E.).

*Fort Wayne*.—A correspondent writes that the officers



of the 23d Inf., stationed at Fort Wayne, Mich., gave a hop in the theatrical hall at the post on Wednesday evening, Jan. 23, which was largely attended by the élite of Detroit. The music, under the directorship of Prof. Clarke, leader of the regimental band, was superb, and was highly complimented by the guests. The whole affair was exceedingly pleasant and passed off with the regularity of clock work, and the rooms were probably never before more adorned by dazzling uniforms, elegant dress of the civil gentlemen, or splendid toilets of the ladies. The rooms were handsomely decorated with flags, pictures and furniture, and the folding doors leading into the billiard hall were thrown open, so that a game of billiards or a tete-à-tete might be had in lieu of a dance.

**23RD INFANTRY, Colonel Jeff. C. Davis.**—Headquarters and A. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K, Fort Leavenworth, Kas.; E, Fort Dodge, Kas.

**Roster.**—The stations of the officers of this regiment, as given in the January roster, were as follows:

**Fort Leavenworth, Kas.:** Lieut.-Col. R. I. Dodge; 1st Lieut. P. T. Brodick, Post Adjt.; 1st Lieut. W. F. Rice, A. A. Q. M.; Capt. J. J. Coppinger, A.; Capt. G. K. Brady, E.; Capt. U. M. Randall, I.; Capt. J. T. Haskell, F.; Capt. T. M. Smith, D.; Capt. C. Wheaton, G.; Capt. O. W. Pollock, C.; Capt. R. I. Eskridge, H.; 1st Lieut. G. A. Goodale, E.; 1st Lieut. L. R. Stille, E.; 1st Lieut. W. C. Manning, A.; 1st Lieut. C. Hay, C. A. C. S. and Treasurer; 1st Lieut. F. L. Dodge, I.; 1st Lieut. W. L. Clarke, G.; 1st Lieut. J. H. Pardee, D.; 1st Lieut. O. L. Wieting, H.; 2d Lieut. E. B. Pratt, I.; 2d Lieut. C. H. Heyl, G.; 2d Lieut. J. B. Lockwood, D.; 2d Lieut. E. B. Bolton, E.; 2d Lieut. J. R. Clagett, C.; 2d Lieut. L. Febiger, A.; 2d Lieut. S. A. Dyer, F. **Fort Dodge, Kas.:** Capt. J. Henton, B.; 1st Lieut. J. F. Trout, B. **On Detached Service:** Col. J. C. Davis and Major A. J. Dallas, G. C. M. duty, Fort Union, N. M.; Capt. A. H. Nickerson, E. A. D. C. to Gen. Crook; 1st Lieut. C. Bird, F, on Recruiting duty C. N. N. Y. E.; 2d Lieut. C. D. Cowles, B, Fort Elliott, Tex.

**Alterations Since Last Roster.**—2d Lieut. W. A. Nichols and S. O'Connor, dropped, appointment not confirmed by Senate.

**24TH INFANTRY, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.**—Headquarters and A, B, D, Fort Clark, Tex.; E, H, Fort McIntosh, Tex.; C, G, I, K, Ringgold Barracks, Tex.; F, Fort Duncan, Tex.

**25TH INFANTRY, Colonel George L. Andrews.**—Headquarters and A, H, I, Fort Davis, Tex.; C, D, F, Fort Stockton, Tex.; B, K, Ft Clark, Tex.; G, Ft Concho, Tex.; E, Fort Duncan, Tex.

**Detached Service.**—Col. G. L. Andrews, Capt. J. W. French, G. Lawson, 1st Lieut. D. B. Wilson, Adjt., 2d Lieut. W. S. Scott, members, and Capt. M. L. Courtney, J. A. of G. C. M. Fort Davis, Tex., Jan. 28 (S. O. 16, Jan. 21, D. T.)

**Officers Registered.**—At Hdqrs Mil. Div. Atlantic, Jan. 29: Lieut.-Col. E. Upton, 4th Art.; Asst. Surg. J. H. Kinsman, U. S. A.; 2d Lieut. G. O. Eaton, 5th Cav.; Asst. Surg. E. Bentley, U. S. A.; Capt. J. R. Brinkley, 5th Art.; Major T. J. Hanes, Sub. Dept.

#### Enlisted Men Released from Confinement.

The following named military prisoners were discharged from Fort Leavenworth Prison on the dates set opposite their names: J. Fitzsimmons, M. Ryan, M. Sullivan, Jan. 19, 1878; J. Fagan, J. Fitzpatrick, Jan. 20; G. H. Johnson, Jan. 21; W. Eller, Jan. 22; J. B. McFadden, J. Schmitt, Jan. 23; J. Kead, Jan. 27; J. A. Brown, W. Lenaki, Jan. 29; D. Donovan, Jan. 30.

**Remitted.**—So much of the unexecuted portion of the sentences as relates to confinement in the cases of Sergt. W. L. Umbles, Corp. C. H. Gilmore, Privates G. W. Fremont and A. Nolan, Co. A, 10th Cav.

#### INDIAN AFFAIRS.

##### SITTING BULL AND HIS ALLIES.

The following despatch has been received at Washington:

**HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF THE YELLOWSTONE,**  
FORT KEIGH, Montana, Jan. 26.  
**Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Dakota, St. Paul, Minn.:**

Quite a large band of Indians from Red Cloud and Spotted Tail Agencies crossed the Yellowstone at the mouth of Cabin Creek, Dec. 23. Reliable information reports Sitting Bull's camp of 500 lodges, at Wood's Mountain, Dec. 20; also, that almost daily additions of Indians from the agencies above named have been received, one party numbering 100 warriors. Indications show that the camp was making preparations to move South. In addition to the large camp above named many lodges of hostile Indians were camped on the side of the line of rock and Frenchman's Creek. The previous reports of Sitting Bull having been on this side is confirmed. The order from the Adjutant-General's office regarding recruits for the field infantry is received. I would recommend that they be fully armed and equipped, furnished with Government transportation, and sent under charge of officers of the regiment now East via the Stanley trail to this place. The winter thus far is unusually mild; no snow.

**NELSON A. MILES, Colonel Commanding District.**

Gen. Sherman, Jan. 28, received a despatch from Lieut.-Gen. Sheridan stating that the reported crossing of Sitting Bull into United States territory is not confirmed, but that, should the rumor prove true, he will at once despatch troops to Col. Miles at Fort Keogh.

#### THE MEXICAN BORDER.

**REVENUE COLLECTOR SLADE** writes from the Custom House, at El Paso, Texas, giving later information about the late riot there. He says:

"Gen. Hatch arrived here on the evening of the 21st December, and started for San Elizario early the next morning, with 150 men, one Gatling gun and one twelve pound howitzer. . . . Gen. Hatch reports that not less than 400 Mexicans, from Mexico, flocked into San Elizario for the purpose of plunder, and had not troops arrived there, they would have sacked Yelata, and, perhaps, El Paso. Yesterday (the 23d), 'The Rangers,' in conjunction with a party of twenty-five or thirty men from Silver City, New Mexico, who volunteered in response to a call from the sheriff of this county, under authority from the Governor to raise

one hundred men,' started for San Elizario, but while in Yelata they arrested two or three Mexicans and shot them. Gen. Hatch arrived on the spot soon after and told the sheriff that they had committed a cowardly murder and that if such proceedings were to be continued he would apply to the President for authority to place this county under martial law. . . . Up to the present writing the 'Rangers,' headed by the sheriff, have killed four Mexicans and wounded one woman."

#### INVESTIGATING THE RIO GRANDE TROUBLES.

The Texas border troubles continue to occupy the attention of two of the House committees—Foreign Affairs and Military Affairs. Major Price, of the 8th Cavalry, has testified before the former, and Mr. J. G. Tucker before the latter. A large part of his examination before the Military Committee, the *Herald* says, "was directed to show a lawless condition of society in the Rio Grande counties of Texas, and that the people of the border towns of Mexico are kept in a good deal of alarm and irritation by the swaggering of officers of Texas State troops and some subaltern officers of the United States Army indulging wild threats of invasion and conquest."

(From the Chicago Inter-Ocean, Jan. 23.)

#### CONGRESSMAN BRAGG'S BILL.

A BILL was introduced in Congress on Monday by Mr. Bragg, of Wisconsin, providing that hereafter every officer of the Army shall wear his uniform at all times. It was further stated that the object was to show how many officers of the Army were loafing around Washington, and it was suggested that if they could be spared off duty to such an extent, they might be dispensed with altogether. A reporter made some inquiries at headquarters relative to the actual number of officers now in Washington.

The gentleman said that there could not be over 25 in the city. There were, of course, a certain number of men in the Commissary, Inspector's, and other Departments who are not there on their own volition, but because they are on duty. As to the officers visiting there, there might, perhaps, be 10 or 15 all the time coming and going. They go to Washington simply because it is the headquarters of Government attachés, and they would see more people that they knew there than anywhere else. But men do not loiter there, as they only have 30 days' leave at a time, and then often but once in the course of years' service in the Far West.

**Reporter.**—It was said that when Congressmen saw how the Capitol was overrun with brigadier-generals, they would be willing to dispense with some of them.

**General.**—That is all nonsense. The number of men of the upper ranks in the Army are limited. There are but six brigadiers of the Line and five of the Staff, I believe. Of course, if this order was made to apply to retired officers, then there might be a sufficient number to cause remark. The agitation of the matter has all grown out of this: Every New Year's Day all the officers at Washington, together with those at Baltimore, Fortress Monroe, and other places, gather to pay their respects to the President, as Commander-in-Chief of the Army. Of course, on this occasion all appear in full uniform, and appear conspicuous from their dress and number. But you must remember these gentlemen do not all belong in Washington, but, as I said, come from neighboring places also.

"How will the officers regard the innovation?"  
"Oh! they will not say much about it, but simply obey orders, of course. It is a custom here, that we have retained from the English, not to wear uniform when off duty, except in camp. There is no rule about it; it is simply a traditional matter. In Russia, Prussia, Sweden, Italy, and some other countries officers of the army always wear uniform. It is perhaps as much as anything, a matter of economy. There it does not make them conspicuous, as the army is so large. One meets an officer as frequently as a policeman. The only objection that I can conceive to it is that it makes a person conspicuous, and most officers would prefer to pass along the street as other citizens, as people here are apt to regard it as putting on airs to wear uniforms."

**WAS HE UNJUSTLY CASHIERED?**—The House Committee on Military Affairs has agreed unanimously to report favorably a bill for the relief of ex-Surgeon-General Hammond, and General McCook, a member of the committee, has been authorized to present the report which he has prepared on the subject to the House. General Hammond, it will be remembered, was cashiered and dismissed from the Army during the war, on the finding of a court-martial, presided over by Major-General, now Senator Oglesby. The charges were very serious, affecting not only his character as an officer and gentleman, but even throwing some doubt upon his personal integrity. General McCook, in investigating the matter, has come to the conclusion that there may have been some mitigating circumstances. The office of Surgeon-General of the Army was created at the opening of the war. The practices and traditions of the old Army were found to be of no value at that time. Surgeon-General Hammond was a young and ambitious officer, and there is no doubt that he exceeded his legal authority; but General McCook is of opinion that it may turn out that no corrupt motive for his action was ever proved. General Hammond now asks, in the bill which the Military Committee will report favorably, that the President of the United States be allowed to review the finding of the court-martial, and if he concedes that it was not sustained by the evidence, it directs that Dr. Hammond be restored to his rank in the Army, and placed on the retired list, without, however, being entitled either to back pay, or future pay. It is believed that the House will agree to this bill.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

#### BILLS BEFORE CONGRESS.

S. 447. "That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and is hereby, authorized and empowered to grant, for the purposes of the 'Woodruff Scientific Expedition Around the World,' a register for a foreign built steamship; and the President of the United States is hereby authorized to detail officers of the Army and Navy, not exceeding five of each, for duty with the said expedition, if, in his opinion, such details can be made without detriment to the public service; and that all officers detailed be required to furnish and transmit to their respective chiefs of departments such reports and scientific data as may appertain thereto; and any collections of scientific material made by them shall be deposited in the National Museum: *Provided also,* That the said steamship be approved by the Secretary of the Navy as suitable for the purposes of the expedition, and that there shall be maintained thereon a school, with capacity for at least 200 students, for the promotion of scientific and nautical knowledge: *And it is further provided,* That in no case shall mercantile or commercial ventures form a part of said expedition."

S. 483. That hereafter the Pay Department of the United States Army shall consist of the following officers, namely: One brigadier-general, paymaster-general; four colonels; six lieutenant-colonels; twenty majors; twenty captains. That this act shall not be construed to deprive any officer of the Pay Department now in office of his commission in the United States Army. That no officer shall be promoted to grade of major shall be made for the number now in that grade be reduced below twenty. That when the present number of majors shall be reduced below forty, appointments to the grade of captain may be made to fill the vacancies. That appointments to the grade of captain shall be made from the subalterns of the Army. That promotions in the Pay Department shall be by virtue of seniority of commission, as is now provided by law. That promotion to the grade of brigadier-general shall be made by selection from the field officers of the Pay Department, as is now provided by law.

H. R. 2336. Authorizes Secretary of War to lease ordnance stores and camp and garrison equipage for military instruction and practice by the students of any college or university which has heretofore accepted, or which may hereafter accept, the provisions of section 1235, R. S.

H. R. 2196. Amends section 1237, R. S., so as to read: "All persons who have served as officers, non-commissioned officers, privates, or other enlisted men, in the Regular Army, naval, volunteer, or militia forces of the United States, during the war of the Rebellion, and have been honorably discharged from the Service, or still remain in the same, shall be entitled to wear, on occasions of ceremony, the distinctive Army badge ordered for or adopted by the Army corps and division respectively in which they served, and, when members of the order, the badge and ribbon of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States."

H. R. 2216. That of the civil engineers in the Navy, two shall have the relative rank of captain, three the relative rank of commander, and all others the relative rank of lieutenant-commander.

H. R. 2240. Amends sections 1417, 1418, 1419, 1420, and 1424, of the Revised Statutes, so as to read as follows: "Sec. 1417. The number of persons who may at one time be enlisted into the Navy of the United States, including seamen, ordinary seamen, landsmen, mechanics, firemen, and coal-heavers, and including 750 apprentices and boys, hereby authorized to be enlisted annually, shall not exceed 8,250. *Provided,* That no person shall be appointed a warrant-officer in the naval service of the United States who has not been discharged upon the expiration of an enlistment as an apprentice or boy, to serve during minority, and re-enlisted to serve during the term of three years, except under the provisions of section 1407 of the Revised Statutes of the United States. "Sec. 1418. Boys between the ages of fifteen and seventeen years may be enlisted to serve in the Navy until they shall arrive at the age of 21 years; other persons may be enlisted to serve for a period not exceeding five years, unless sooner discharged by direction of the President." "Sec. 1419. Minors between the age of fifteen and seventeen years shall not be enlisted for the naval service without the consent of their parents or guardians." "Sec. 1420. No minor under the age of fifteen years, no insane or intoxicated person, and no deserter from the naval or military service of the United States shall be enlisted in the naval service." "Sec. 1424. Article 19. Any officer who knowingly enlists into the naval service any deserter from the naval or military service of the United States, or any insane or intoxicated person, or any minor between the ages of fifteen and seventeen years, without the consent of his parents or guardians, or any minor under the age of fifteen years, shall be punished as a court-martial may direct."

H. R. 2314. That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and is hereby, authorized and directed to pay to Thornton A. Jenkins, a rear-admiral in the Navy, on the retired list, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sum of money as shall be found to be the difference between the lawful pay of a commander in the Navy, according to the different duties he performed, and that of lieutenant in the Navy, from the 14th day of September, 1855, the date of his promotion from the grade of lieutenant to that of commander, to the 1st day of June, 1860, the date of the passage of the act of Congress establishing and fixing the rates of pay of officers of the Navy.

H. R. 2315. That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and is hereby, authorized and directed to pay to Thornton A. Jenkins, a rear-admiral in the U. S. Navy, on the retired list, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sum of money as shall be equivalent to the difference between the pay of a retired rear-admiral and that of the highest rate of pay of a rear-admiral on the active list of the Navy, from the 26th day of March, 1876, to the 30th day of June, 1877, inclusive.

H. R. 2341. That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and is hereby, authorized to establish a system of deposits to prevent desertion and elevate the condition of the rank and file of the Army, so far as they relate to the payment of interest on deposits, be extended to include the payment of interest at the rate of four per centum per annum, to the appointed and enlisted petty officers, seamen, ordinary seamen, landsmen, boys, and marines in the naval service, on the annuities of their pay, respectively, that may be retained and borne to their credit on the books of the several pay officers of the Navy, under such regulations and restrictions as the Secretary of the Navy may establish.

H. R. 2345. Grants pension to widow of Reynold Marion Kirby, major 1st regiment U. S. Artillery, who died at Fort Sullivan, in 1842.

H. R. 2351. Granting a pension to soldiers and sailors who became insane while in the United States Service or after their honorable discharge.

H. R. 2333. Gives \$1,379.45 to Capt. M. L. Courtney, 25th Infantry, for effects destroyed by fire.

H. R. 2364. That from and after the passage of this act no civilian or other person not belonging to the Navy shall be appointed to take charge of or superintend the sailmakers' department of any of the Navy-yards; but said appointment shall be made from the sailmakers who are in the Navy.

H. R. 2115. Appropriates \$6,000 to bury those lost on *Howes* (passed).

H. R. 2173. Grants pension to Edwin F. Lewis, late U. S. A.

H. R. 2176. Increase of pension to widow of 1st Lieut. McTaggart, 17th Infantry.

H. R. 2177. Authorizes patent for Reynolds' "Army and Navy Emblems."

H. R. 2184. Appropriates \$27,942.76 for pay of laborers at Brooklyn, League Island, and Kittery Navy-yards.

H. R. 2186. Authorizes reappointment of Edmund T. Ryan, late 15th Infantry, 3d lieutenant U. S. A., with back pay "from the date of his wrongful dismissal."

**Mrs. MARCY, wife of General R. B. Marcy, Inspector-General of the United States Army, died in Baltimore on Tuesday, Jan. 29, after a brief illness, of congestion of the lungs. She was the mother of Mrs. General McClellan, and a lady universally known and esteemed. The funeral took place from the residence of Governor McClellan, Trenton, N. J., Feb. 1.**



## THE NAVY.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, *President and Com'der-in-Chief*  
 RICHARD W. THOMPSON, *Secretary of the Navy*.  
 JOHN W. HOGG, *Chief Clerk*.

### BUREAUS OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

YARDS AND DOCKS—Rear-Admiral Jno. C. Howell.  
 NAVIGATION—Rear-Admiral Daniel Ammen.  
 EQUIPMENT AND RECRUITING—Commodore R. W. Shufeldt.  
 ORDNANCE—Commodore Wm. N. Jeffers.  
 MEDICINE AND SURGERY—Surgeon-General Wm. Grier.  
 PROVISIONS AND CLOTHING—P. M. G. Geo. F. Cutler.  
 STEAM ENGINEERING—Eng-in-Chief Wm. H. Shock.  
 CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR—Chief Constructor John W. Raaby.

### FLAG OFFICERS AFLOAT.

EUROPEAN STATION—Rear-Admiral W. E. Le Roy.  
 ASIATIC STATION—Rear-Admiral T. H. Patterson.  
 NORTH PACIFIC—Rear-Admiral Alex. Murray.  
 SOUTH PACIFIC—Rear-Admiral Geo. H. Preble.  
 SOUTH ATLANTIC—Commodore Edw. T. Nichols.  
 NORTH ATLANTIC—Rear-Admiral S. D. Trenchard.

### FLAG OFFICERS ON SHORE DUTY.

NAVAL OBSERVATORY—Rear-Admiral John Rodgers, Supt.  
 NAVAL ASTRUM, PHILADELPHIA—Rear-Admiral J. R. M. Mullany.

### NAVAL ACADEMY—Rear-Admiral C. R. P. Rodgers.

COMMANDANTS NAVY YARDS.  
 Commodore E. R. Colburn, Navy-yard, Mare Island.  
 Commodore Foxhall A. Parker, Boston, Mass.  
 Commodore J. W. A. Nicholson, New York.  
 Commodore John C. Feibiger, Washington, D.C.  
 Commodore J. Blakely Creighton, Norfolk, Va.  
 Commodore Pelce Crosby, League Island, Penn.  
 Commodore John Guest, Portsmouth, N. H.  
 Captain George E. Belknap, Pensacola, Fla.  
 Commodore D. McNeill Fairfax, New London.

### VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

THE flagship *Onaka*, bearing the broad pennant of Rear Admiral Geo. H. Preble, was at Valparaiso, Dec. 17, on her way home.

THE *Essex* was reported at Fernando Po, on the African coast, Nov. 24. The general health on board was good, with the exception of a few cases of intermittent fever.

THE *Plymouth* arrived at Norfolk Jan. 28. It is reported that she will be repaired at Norfolk for another cruise up the Mississippi river, under the command of Capt. Harmony.

THE flag-ship *Trenton*, of the European station, arrived at Smyrna Jan. 1, having left Villefranche Dec. 23. Rear Admiral Le Roy telegraphs the Department that he will remain at Smyrna for the present. The *Alliance* was to leave that port for the westward a few days later. The *Marion* was at Villefranche, and the *Vandalia* at Alexandria.

THE Board of Examiners for the examination of the class of midshipmen of 1875, for promotion to ensigns, consisting of Commodore F. A. Parker, Captain James A. Greer, Commanders John A. Howell, Alfred T. Mahan and O. A. Batcheller, and Chief Engineer A. J. Keirsted, having concluded its duties have been dissolved.

A SHOAL with three and a half fathoms of water having been discovered about three miles southwest of the Five Fathom Bank Light Ship, notice is given by the L. H. Board that, on the 28th of Jan., 1878, or as soon thereafter as the weather will permit, that vessel will be moved to a new position, about three miles south of the present one, approximately as follows: Latitude, 33deg. 48min. (20 sec.); longitude, 74deg. 36min. (10sec.) Cape Henlopen Light bearing West, 23 miles distant. Vessels entering Delaware Bay should pass to the southward and eastward of the Light Ship. Also, that, on and after February 9, 1878, the characteristic of the Fog Signal on this vessel will be changed to one blast of four seconds' duration, each minute.

REAR ADMIRAL T. H. PATTERSON, commanding U. S. Naval Force on the Asiatic Station, reports the arrival of the *Tennessee* at Shanghai, on Dec. 20, from Yokohama. An interchange of civilities was made between the Acting Governor of the Province, and an official visit to the *Tennessee* was made by two Chinese Ambassadors, who were received with becoming ceremony; they manifested great pleasure on inspection of the ship. He reports the construction of a Chinese corvette at Shanghai of about 2,000 tons, armed with 20 guns, rifled breech loaders, of Krupp's latest model, and mounted on machine carriages of the most modern pattern, fitted with two back-acting engines, of English construction, and four boilers. Her crew number about 400 men, and her entire personnel is made up of Chinese. He reports the *Ashuelot* at Shanghai. Health of officers and men excellent.

"GENTLENESS and manliness combined make men noble," writes a Naval officer, "and when we add attainments above the average, we reveal the character of George P. Ryan, whose career ended with the ship he commanded. He was only a few months past fifteen years of age when he entered the Naval Academy, and from that time until his death, in the words of Rev. Father Fulton, who preached his funeral sermon, 'his career was a successful one.' He was a Christian in faith and acts, a loving husband, and an affectionate father. During his stay at the Desolation Islands, in charge of a party for the observation of the Transit of Venus, the evenness of his disposition and his justness, coupled with personal endurance, and a full knowledge of the work he was sent by the Government to perform, endeared him to every member of that isolated party. The complete manner in which that work was performed, will live as a lustrous addition to the at-

tainments of our Naval officers, and it reflects much credit upon the institution of which he was a graduate."

CAPTAIN D. L. BRAINE, U. S. N., commanding U. S. R. S. *Colorado*, Navy-yard, New York, has sent to Commodore R. W. Shufeldt, U. S. N., Chief of Bureau of E. and R., the following annual report of attendance in library, at Sailors' Hall, for the year ending December 31, 1877:

Number of volumes in library January 1st, 1877.....	1,254
" " " received during the year.....	481
" " " at present in library.....	1,745
" " " men who used the library.....	26,981
Average daily attendance.....	80 31
Number of books read.....	19,709
" " " letters written.....	4,048
" " " religious services held in hall.....	156
" " " secular entertainments.....	20

In submitting this report Captain Braine says: "I have the honor to submit the second enclosed annual report of the library in Sailors' Hall, on Cob Dock, at this station. I again have the pleasure of informing you of the continued interest and gratitude manifested by the men under my command, for the privileges which the hall and library still continue to afford them. The admirable order which prevails at all times, the evident desire to conform willingly to the regulations prescribed by me, and the remarkably good condition of the books, after nearly two years of constant use, speak of their appreciation of my efforts in their behalf, in language stronger than any I could use. During the past year the usual religious services have been held in the hall, at which the attendance of the men has been good. The ladies and gentlemen who have so kindly continued to aid me in providing secular entertainments at Sailors' Hall, as well as choral service on Sundays, have done much good, and the men are unanimous in expressing their gratitude for the favors thus conferred on them. The invitations which I still continue to extend to the crews of the different U. S. ships lying at the Navy-yard, were gratefully accepted, and all who were able to attend expressed themselves well pleased with the entertainments. The Rev. J. R. Matthews, chaplain, U. S. N., and Mr. P. D. Williams, agent of the Brooklyn City Bible Society, still continue their efforts to promote the spiritual welfare of the men. Regardless of the weather they have always been present at the appointed times, and much good has been accomplished by them. The regard which the men entertain for Mr. Williams is shown by the handsome testimonial which they have lately presented to him."

THE officers of the *Powhatan* gave a farewell hop on board that vessel, at Norfolk, Tuesday, Jan. 22. The following is a list of the officers of the *Powhatan*: Rear Admiral Commanding, Stephen D. Trenchard; Commander and Chief of Staff, Thomas Scott Fillebrown; Flag Lieutenant, F. B. Tilley; Aid, Chauncey Thomas; Secretary, John S. Stodden; Clerk, Edward Trenchard; Chief Engineer, D. R. Macomb; Medical Inspector, John Y. Taylor; Fleet Surgeon, C. P. Wallach; Fleet Paymaster, Captain Henry J. Bishop; United States Marine Corps; Fleet Marine Officer, Lieutenant Commander French E. Chadwick; Executive Officers, C. H. Arnold, W. H. Reeder and W. H. Beehler; Ensign, J. C. Fremont, Jr.; Midshipmen, L. K. Reynolds and R. T. Mulligan; Passed Assistant Engineers, R. B. Hine and C. J. Habighorst; Passed Assistant Surgeon, W. S. Dixon; Assistant Surgeon, R. Ashbridge; Second Lieutenant, W. P. Biddle, United States Marine Corps; Boat-swain, Charles Miller; Carpenter, W. H. Barrett; Gunner, John Gaskins; Sailmaker, G. D. Macey; Captain's Clerk, A. K. Parriss; Paymaster's Clerks, W. V. Moriarity and A. E. Moriarity. The *Virginian*, speaking of the reception, says: "It was somewhat marred by inclement weather, but all present enjoyed the occasion. We don't know a more popular or genteel set of officers on any ship, and they can take with them the proud satisfaction that they are sadly missed by many true friends in Norfolk." The *Powhatan* leaves for a cruise to the West Indies. She is to visit the following ports: St. Thomas, Santa Cruz, Saint Kitts, Port de France (Martinique), Puerto Cabello, Curacao, Santiago de Cuba and Havana. Letters may be forwarded to Havana, care of U. S. Consul-General, till about April 15th. He will despatch mail to the *Powhatan* whenever opportunity offers.

THE *Boston Tribune* says the naval monument by Mr. Simmons, erected in Pennsylvania ave., near the Western entrance to the Capitol Park, Washington, during the past summer and fall has recently been completed by placing in position the statue of Peace on the sub-base of the eastern side of the pedestal. It adds: "The character of the monument is classic, more so than any other work of art at the Capitol. The principal group is that which crowns the monument, and represents Grief and History. The former drops a tear for those of the Navy who fell in defence of the country, while History perpetuates the memory of their heroic deeds. History naturally affords a support to Grief, while at the same time she writes upon a tablet which she holds in her hand. On the front of the sub base is a triangular group, the central figure of which represents Victory, holding aloft in her right hand a laurel crown, and in her left an oak branch, indicating the strength which goes with victory. On either side are emblematic figures, representing Mars and Neptune. On the back or east side

of the sub-base, fronting the Capitol, is a corresponding triangular group, representing Peace, with the emblems of peace and industry. The statue of Peace is partially draped, which gives a pleasing variety to the group. In her right hand she extends an olive branch, and in her left she holds the drapery of the figure. On the right of Peace are a sheaf of grain, a horn of plenty, and a broken sword. Upon the wheat a dove has just alighted. On the left are emblems of literature, art, and science. The inscription on the front of the sub-base of the pedestal is: 'In memory of the officers, sailors, and marines of the United States Navy who fell in defence of the union and liberty of their country, 1861-1865.' The position of this monument is the most conspicuous in Washington. Every one going up Pennsylvania ave. to the Capitol must necessarily pass it, and, unlike some of the statues with which it has been attempted to adorn the city, it is a work of which the American people need not be ashamed. The monument will be seen to best advantage in summer, when the foliage of the park will partially hide the Capitol, and form a proper back-ground for its principal groups."

## NAVY GAZETTE.

### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

#### ORDERED.

JAN. 25.—Paymaster A. J. Pritchard, to the training ship *Minnetota*, at New York.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Remus C. Persons, to report for the temporary medical charge of the Wyoming as the relief of Passed Assistant Surgeon Chas. A. Siegfried.

JAN. 28.—Captain D. B. Harmony, to command the *Plymouth* on the 1st February.

Commander A. K. Yates, as inspector of ordnance at the Navy-yard, League Island.

Carpenter David W. Perry, to the Navy-yard, League Island, on the 1st February.

JAN. 29.—Lieutenant Chapman C. Todd, to the receiving ship *Franklin* at Norfolk, Va., on the 8th February.

Chief Engineer James W. King, to Washington for special duty, on the completion of which he will return to Boston and resume his regular duties.

Chief Engineers Wm. J. Laidin and James W. Whitaker, Passed Assistant Engineers George W. Roche, Albert C. Engard and James M. Emanuel, and Assistant Engineer A. B. Willis, to duty in connection with the trial of the engines of the *Quinnabag*, at League Island, Pa.

#### DETACHED.

JAN. 25.—Midshipman S. J. Brown, from the *Tuscarora*, and ordered to the nautical school ship *Jamestown*, at San Francisco, Cal.

Carpenter Warren Barnard, from the receiving ship *Independence*, and ordered to duty in the Department of Yards and docks at the Navy-yard, Mare Island.

JAN. 28.—Captain Edward Barrett, from the command of the *Plymouth* on the 1st February, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant Arthur P. Osborn, from the Naval Academy on the 3d February, and ordered to the nautical school ship *St. Mary's*, at New York.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Chas. A. Siegfried, from the receiving ship *Wyoming*, and ordered to the *Alert*, Asiatic Station, per steamer of March 1 from San Francisco.

Passed Assistant Surgeon H. M. Martin, from the *Alert* on the reporting of his relief, and ordered to return home and report arrival.

Carpenter, J. P. Carter, from the Navy-yard, League Island, and placed on waiting orders.

JAN. 29.—Midshipmen York Noel, Frank J. Milligan, George T. Simmons, Abner C. Hodgson, Charles H. Amenden, Cameron McR. Winslow, James M. Helm, William G. Cutler, Clarence A. Corbin, Fidelio S. Carter, Fredk. W. Coffin, Harry H. Hosley, Charles Laird, Walter S. Hughes, Frank P. Fletcher, David Daniels, Alexander Sharp, Moses L. Wood, Richard H. Townley, Edward D. Bostick, George H. Worcester, John A. Sherman, Frank E. Beatty, Robert M. Doyle, James T. Smith, Charles M. McCarty, Henry J. Hunt, Ridgely Hunt, Frederick B. Vinton, William B. Caperton, and George Stoney, from further attendance before the Examining Board, and ordered to proceed home and wait orders.

#### WARRANTED.

Arthur W. Massey a Carpenter in the Navy from August 19, 1874.

Herman Hansen a Sailmaker in the Navy from January 17, 1876.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To Master John P. Wallis for six months from January 28.

To Passed Assistant Paymaster S. Denison Hurlbut for six months from January 25.

To Assistant Engineer Julius A. Kaiser for one year from February 1, with permission to leave the United States.

To Assistant Surgeon Edward H. Green, attached to the Naval Hospital, New York, for one month from February 1.

## DEATH OF PAYMASTER LINSLEY.

JARED LINSLEY, Jr., Paymaster of the United States Navy, with the relative rank of lieutenant commander, and son of Dr. Jared Linsley, died at the residence of his father, No. 22 Lafayette Place, New York, on Thursday night, Jan. 24. His death was caused by hemorrhage of the bowels, resulting from an ulceration of the stomach with which he has been suffering for a number of years. Paymaster Linsley has been attached to the training ship *Minnetota*, at Brooklyn, since the 8th of May, 1875, and about two weeks ago was attacked with a congestive chill, and has since been confined to the house, being attended by Surgeon Edward Kershner, of the Navy. Paymaster Linsley was appointed a paymaster in the volunteer service July 11, 1864, and has seen more sea service than any other officer of his rank, his duties principally being in the West Indies. Immediately after his appointment in the Navy he was ordered to the tin-clad *Juilette*, at Cairo, on the Mississippi. On July 23, 1866, he was commissioned by the President as passed assistant paymaster, and was ordered to duty on the corvette *Massachusetts*, where he remained until September, 1867. He afterwards served on the double-ended, *Ossacola*, *Seminole*, *Wyoming* and *Wachusett*. While at Port-au-Prince, on the *Seminole*, the vessel was attacked with yellow fever, and most of those on board were sufferers from it. The surgeon and assistant surgeon of the vessel both died with black vomit and were buried by Mr. Linsley, the former at Port-au-Prince and the latter at Key West. The *Seminole* was afterward brought to New York, and several cases of yellow fever appearing, she was placed in Quarantine with nearly every one on board depleted with yellow fever. He was born in New York July 30, 1843. His funeral



took place from the residence of his father on Monday at 10:30 A. M. The officers of the Navy-yard and vessels of the station attended in a body, a force of marines and sailors attending as a guard of honor. Rev. Dr. Booth, of the University Place Presbyterian Church, who conducted the services, made a short address, speaking in eloquent terms of the character of young Linsly, his services as an officer, and his kindly qualities of heart. The casket was borne by sailors from the *Minnesota* and guarded on either side by the pall-bearers, Paymasters Clark and Fury, United States Navy; Lieutenants Tremain and Noyes, and Messrs. T. W. Lillie, H. A. Hurlbert, Jr., Edward T. Williams and Washington Coester. Delegations from the Union Club, the Army and Navy Club, and the Knickerbocker Athletic Club attended. The interment took place in the cemetery in Second street, where the body was placed in a receiving vault, the "committal" portion of the Episcopal service being read by Chaplain Hager. Early in the spring it is the intention of the family to remove the remains to Connecticut.

(From the New York Times, Jan. 24.)

#### RIVALS UNDERGROUND.

[We publish this for its humor, and not as a criticism upon the investigation of Mr. Robeson's administration of the Navy Department.—ED. JOURNAL.]

In the mining regions of the free and untamed West, it sometimes happens that miners, in their different underground burrowings, run across each other's tunnels. The usual and immediate consequence is a fight. No sooner is a breach made in the thin wall which separates the "Consolidated Butterfly" from the "Last Chance" than the workmen in each tunnel fall furiously upon the alleged trespassers from the other. It often happens that a bloody battle thus takes place in the bowels of the earth. Something like this has happened with two rival burrowing committees of the House of Representatives. The Committee on Expenditures in the Navy Department, Mr. Willis, Chairman, represents one class of mining operators; the Committee on Naval Affairs, Mr. Whitthorne, Chairman, represents another and very aggressive mining company. Mr. Willis' committee has the prior claim to the ground, having, as miners say, driven the first stakes. And Mr. Willis, it may be added, has the advantage of possessing more fairness and dignity than the rival concern over which Mr. Whitthorne presides. This may be saying much, but let us give the devil his due.

When Mr. Fernando Wood introduced his general licensing act, just before the holiday recess, it was confidently expected that eighteen House committees would at once begin to investigate everything and everybody. The resolutions were temporarily obstructed in their passage, and it was not until Congress reassembled in January that they were passed. Then the House authorized a general hunt through the departments. The dogs held in leash leaped forth with hungry yells. The Secretary of the Navy blandly informed the committees that he had a room at their disposal, that they were welcome to come in and look for themselves, and that if they did not see what they wanted they should ask for it. Mr. Willis moved into the Navy Department and camped. Mr. Whitthorne arrived a few seconds too late, breathless and angry. Mr. Willis was already running his tunnel into the lower level, where he expected to strike it rich. And the baffled Whitthorne, flattening his nose against the windows of the Navy Department, beheld his smart rival applying his mining machinery to the jolly tar of the *Wabash*.

Naturally, as Mr. Whitthorne marshalled his Committee on Naval Affairs back to the House, he was very angry. He had quit work on his tunnel, so to speak, when the last Congress adjourned. He was then boring through the "country rock," as the miners would say, hoping to strike a rich lead in Secretary Robeson at any day. Through the closed doors of his place of operations he had occasionally let slip a report or a fragment of a report, which was designed to affect the rumor market, then very much agitated. For this was during a Presidential canvass. Somehow, he failed to strike Robeson to any purpose, and he left off work in a discouraged frame of mind. But Whitthorne is an indefatigable borer. When the present Congress met, and he was again placed at the head of the Naval Committee, he prepared to resume operations where he left off. If Willis had not been so spry, Whitthorne would have undermined the Navy Department by this time, and, before the time came for him to wear his linen duster, he would have blown the whole establishment sky-high. Now he is so indignant that he will not attend the meetings of Willis' committee, of which he is a member. But Willis is a member of Whitthorne's committee, too; and, in order to equalize things, he stays away from the meetings of that committee. The result is that the Willis committee is short by one man, which leaves two Democrats and two Republicans; and the Whitthorne committee goes on its burrowing way without the invaluable aid of Mr. Willis.

As both of the committees are investigating the Navy Department, it follows as a matter of course that they will run into each other's tunnel, by and by. This is predetermined. Then there will be a riot. When these two parties meet underground, and Willis glares at Whitthorne, and Whitthorne glares at Willis, the trouble will begin. It will not matter, then, that neither has "struck pay dirt." Their quarrel over the right of way will be of more account to them than all the undiscovered corruption in the Navy Department could possibly be. When two committees are investigating the same knot-hole, there needs must be confusion. How ridiculous it would be, for instance, for Mr. Whitthorne to discover, when he thought he was smelling Robeson, that he was really on the trail of Willis. And how foolish Willis will look when he

fancies that he is about to uncover a gigantic fraud in the Bureau of Construction and Repairs, and finds poor Whitthorne curled up in one of the bottom drawers. The Committee on Expenditures will go around with their noses in the air sniffing "something dead," and will suddenly drag forth the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Something like what we have hinted at is in store for fifteen or twenty other investigating committees. There is a Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, for instance, and there is a Committee on Expenditures in the Post Office Department. Both of these have license to run their tunnels in every direction through the postal service, the Postmasters, and all that appertains thereto. Then there is a Committee on Military Affairs, and one on Expenditures in the War Department. Let us, at least, be spared the sight of Banning and Blackburn locked in a deadly embrace at the head of their respective investigating parties, in the sub-cellar of the War Department. Mr. Fernando Wood has made a fine mess of his wholesale investigations. We warned him that he would only make trouble for his friends. Clashing and confusion were sure to come from an indiscriminate loosing of all the investigators at once. An impartial public can afford to look on and laugh at the first tunnelers who begin to fight each other.

#### APPOINTMENTS TO THE NAVAL ACADEMY.

An article purporting to give the vacancies at the Naval Academy from the several States has been very generally published in the newspapers, and was copied into the JOURNAL. It also invites persons to apply to the Secretary of the Navy for information concerning the same, an invitation, which the mail of the Navy Department shows a great number of young men throughout the country have availed themselves of. The article did not state, as it should have done, that, as the law requires a person to be a resident of the Congressional district from which he applies for appointment, information is given by the Secretary of the Navy only as to the status of a particular district, and not of all the Congressional districts, nor did it state that when the Secretary has the power to fill vacancies in cases where members fail to nominate (a rare occurrence), he exercises it by appointing persons who are actual residents of the vacant district. The article seems to give the impression that it is a difficult matter to get cadets, whereas the fact is, the number of applicants is greatly in excess of the vacancies. It has evidently raised hopes in the minds of young men which cannot possibly be realized. It should be remembered that the number of vacancies is small, that none of them (except in rare instances as stated above), can be filled on the nomination of the representative of the Congressional district, and that the representatives are the proper persons to address for information.

#### REORGANIZATION OF THE NAVY.

Mr. Willis' bill (H. R. 2541), "providing for the organization of the Navy during peace," requires the Secretary to organize the chiefs of bureaus into a board to meet daily "for the discussion of all matters relating to the Navy in its different departments," the proceedings to be recorded by a stenographer. The chief of the bureau proposing expenditures is to make his statement, and the chiefs of the other bureaus will express their approval, or briefly their ground of objection. Estimates for appropriations after being fully discussed and receiving the approval of the Secretary will be forwarded to Congress. Sec. 2. The Navy-yards are to be classed as follows: 1st class, "for building, machinery, and equipment of vessels, and for all naval purposes," Boston, Brooklyn, Norfolk and Mare Island. 2d class, "to be used only for equipment or building vessels, if required, and to be kept constantly in condition for service," Kittery, Me., League Island and Pensacola. The Washington yard to be a second class Navy-yard for the construction of machinery, anchors, cables, etc., and for construction in the Department of Ordnance. Sec. 3. That a receiving ship, rendezvous and training ship for boys be attached to each first class station and to other stations "when the exigencies of the public service demand it." Sec. 4 authorizes enlistment of 850 boys for training. Sec. 5 limits peace establishment to 30 sea-going vessels, viz., North Atlantic Station, which is also to serve as a squadron for instruction, nine; European, South Atlantic, India, North Pacific and South Pacific Station, each three; Asiatic Station, six. Store vessels, torpedo boats, and despatch vessels to be commissioned as required, and one or more small gunboats or launches to patrol the Rio Grande. Sec. 6 reduces the commodores to 22, captains to 42, commanders to 76, lieutenants to 215, engineers to 69, assistant engineers to 96, past assistant paymasters to 28, paymasters to 16, civil engineers to 9, and professors of mathematics to 9; increases lieutenant commanders to 106, ensigns and midshipmen to 180, gunners to 60, assistant engineers to 100, surgeons to 56, past assistant surgeons to 61, assistant surgeons to 76, carpenters to 53, and sailmakers to 53; admirals, masters, boat-swains, medical directors and inspectors, pay directors, inspectors and paymasters, and chaplains as at present. No promotion to be made until grades reduced are brought down to proper number.

Sec. 7. That the full pay of the officers of the Navy shall be the same as that of the officers of the Army with whom they take rank; that when on sea service the same amount in emoluments be allowed as to the assimilated grades in the Army; that when on duty on shore, officers of the Navy shall be entitled to their full pay without the allowances; and when on leave of absence, to 62½ per centum of the full pay of their grade, without the allowances: *Provided*, That all laws and parts of laws allowing an officer to be furloughed, other than by sentence of a court-martial or at his own request, are hereby repealed. Sec. 8. That the law regulating the pay of the retired list of the United States Navy be and is so modified and amended that retired list officers who have seen twenty years' actual service at sea, and

retired staff officers who have seen fourteen years actual service at sea, shall receive 75 per centum of the full pay of the grade from which they were retired; and that all other officers retired shall receive one-half of the full pay of the grade from which they were retired.

THE text of the bill for the removal of the Naval Observatory, as it passed the Senate January 24, is as follows:

That the President be, and he is hereby, directed to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a commission, consisting of three members, whose duty it shall be to select a site within the District of Columbia for the United States Naval Observatory, such site to possess relatively the advantages of healthfulness, clearness of atmosphere, convenience of access from the city of Washington, and such other advantages as may be found expedient, and to report fully thereon, including estimates of the total expense of said site and of the removal of the Observatory, to the present session of Congress.

In the debate on the bill Mr. Sargent showed that since the observatory was established in 1840 the uncovering of the Ridwell Bottoms has greatly increased the malarial influences of the Potomac, until now they are unquestionably dangerous to the health and lives of those ordered to the observatory. "Their nerves are shattered by this 'malaria,'" said Mr. Sargent, "making their observations less reliable. The fogs, other men not doctors, state, come up and envelop the observatory sometimes so that at a very critical period of the observations the instruments are rendered entirely useless. And yet in spite of this the committee show by this report that the scientific magazines of Europe give more space in their columns over a series of years to the observations and useful work of this observatory and the discoveries which have been made there and to its great contributions to science than to those of almost any other observatory in the civilized world. We send our officers there and assign them to that duty. They are as much compelled to go there as if we sent them to the cannon's mouth. It requires more courage to stand the malarial influences at the observatory than it does to charge in battle, and those influences, that malaria is growing, worse and worse year by year. There is uniform testimony to this effect by medical officers in the Service and out of it." The testimony of Medical Directors Geo. Clymer and Chas. I. Maxwell, Medical Inspector Philip S. Wales and Drs. Grafton Tyler and G. P. Garnett was quoted in support of these statements. "Professor Yarnall," Mr. Sargent said, "gives instances of the death of some of the brightest officers of the Service who were stationed at this observatory. He says that the death of Admiral Davis, if not directly caused, was hastened by the malarious influences surrounding him at this observatory."

THE London *Army and Navy Gazette* says: "We have lately had the question of naval uniform under discussion in these columns, and have suggested some reform and the reduction of one of the tail coats, the undress. The same question is, we find from the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL of New York, being taken up in the United States Navy, and this uniformity of action is enough to prove that there is a real inconvenience and unnecessary expense incurred by the present regulations. Another point which has been referred to by some of our correspondents, the introduction of a serviceable head-dress for tropical climates, has also been raised on the other side of the Atlantic, and a helmet is proposed. Certainly the present regulations on uniform, if strictly enforced, are enough to nearly kill an officer serving in such a warm corner as the Persian Gulf, and one might be excused for thinking that the original framers of these regulations had never experienced anything hotter than an August sun in Pall Mall. It is to be hoped that the present agitation for some alterations in the uniform of naval officers may soon bear fruit."

THE *Allegemeine Zeitung* states that all the necessary preparations have been made for assembling, upon the despatch of telegraphic orders, a squadron of German men-of-war on the west coast of Nicaragua, should that State refuse to give the satisfaction demanded by the German government for the insult recently offered to its Charge d'Affaires. The squadron will consist of the new iron spar-decked corvette *Leipzig*, launched in 1875, of 3,925 tons displacement, and armed with twelve guns—at present on the voyage to Montevideo; the flush-decked wooden corvette *Ariadne*, 1,693 tons, and carrying six guns, fitted out for Australia; the flush-decked wooden corvette *Medusa*, of 1,183 tons, and armed with nine guns, at the present moment on the coast of Brazil, and the large wooden spar-decked corvette *Elisabeth*, of 2,468 tons, and carrying eighteen guns, now cruising in Japanese waters. The Bay of Papagayo, on the west coast of Nicaragua, is named as the place of rendezvous, and the squadron, if assembled, will be under the orders of Capt. von Wicked, captain of the *Elisabeth*.

At a recent auction sale of old stores at Portsmouth dock-yard an old boiler was sold, and was then found by its new owner to include the brass tubing—a little fortune, at least to him. The dock-yard authorities attempted to dispute the legality of the sale, but the purchaser held his own and carried his prize off in triumph. Several reflections are suggested to *Iron* by this remarkable incident, "the first of which is a doubt whether 'somebody'—that terrible 'somebody'—in the dock-yard did not know all about the tubing—or, at least, ought to have known all about it; and the second, that the system of selling old stores by auction is wrong altogether. These auctions are attended by a rabble rout, who arrange a 'knock-out' among themselves." Our own naval authorities could give our cotemporary some hints from their experience in this matter.



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### U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1878.

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### THE WAR IN THE EAST.

**P**EACE is the uppermost word that comes from  
 the East. But should the negotiations now  
 pending be broken off by some point of dissension,  
 the renewed struggle could not very easily be a  
 single-handed one. We see no reason at this writing  
 for anticipating any such widened complication.

When a combatant suddenly collapses, at the end  
 of a campaign, as Turkey has collapsed, the final  
 moves that have produced this result are apt to be  
 overlooked in the new excitement and curiosity as to  
 the conditions and the effects of peace. But the last  
 stage in the present campaign has been so marked  
 and suggestive as to deserve a glance. Although its  
 exact details of days and routes are as yet wanting,  
 the general mode of operation is well defined and in-  
 telligible. The Russian plan was one of the simplest  
 and most primitive of military operations—a com-  
 bined front and flank move upon the objective; but  
 it was distinguished by an obstinacy and celerity that  
 are worth observing.

OSMAN defended Plevna until winter was nigh at  
 hand, and snow had already fallen in the Balkans.  
 Very possibly, the Turks, taking counsel of their  
 hopes, calculated that Plevna had been held long  
 enough to end any serious Russian advance until  
 spring, especially as so great a prize might justify the  
 Russians in rounding off their first campaign with it,  
 and resting until early spring before trying the moun-  
 tains. The Russians, however, had never dreamed  
 of failing to secure the full fruits of their victory over  
 OSMAN. No sooner had Plevna fallen than they put  
 into operation a plan probably arranged long before.  
 It was determined that a force should move south-  
 easterly to Adrianople, on the straightest road, cross-  
 ing the Balkans at Shipka Pass; and at the same time  
 that an army should move thither in a roundabout  
 way, by a course southwest from Plevna, crossing  
 the Balkans near Etropol, taking Sophia, and then  
 marching through the Ichtiman Pass southeasterly  
 to Plevna. This latter, the longer operation, was be-  
 gun first, and the other, or direct march, was timed  
 to it.

When the Turks saw the Russian purpose, and  
 found that the storms of winter would not give them  
 a respite, they roused themselves from the paralysis  
 into which Plevna had thrown them. SULEIMAN  
 was put in general command of the West Bulgarian  
 army, to resist the advance upon Sophia. He could  
 rely on collecting about 50,000 men and 150 guns for  
 this purpose. At Shipka and in its rear at Kesanlik  
 were, in addition, probably about 30,000 men and  
 100 guns. As defensive operations in the Dobrud-  
 scha and the Quadrilateral were now of minor im-  
 portance, it was possible to detach at least 15,000  
 men from the former region, and send them around  
 by transport to Constantinople, and thence northwest-  
 erly by rail to Adrianople. But the main forces to be  
 relied on were evidently the 30,000 near Shipka, and  
 the Sophia army under SULEIMAN. It would evi-  
 dently require at least 120,000 men to overcome these  
 forces, and the Russians must have put more than  
 120,000 in motion.

Towards the last of December, General GOURKHO  
 forced his army across the Etropol Balkans, after  
 great labors, losses, and sufferings. He encountered  
 CHAKIR PASHA's army from Kamarti, the advance of  
 SULEIMAN's force, and, defeating them at Tashesan

and Bogrov, after desperate and bloody fighting  
 marched victoriously to Sophia. Hardly pausing  
 there, he turned toward the Ichtiman Pass, and  
 again drove CHAKIR PASHA before him to Ichtiman.  
 There SULEIMAN had collected the remainder of  
 CHAKIR PASHA's force, the remnants of all the gar-  
 risons up as far as Nisch, and some troops from  
 Roumelia. It seems to us highly probable that, al-  
 though GOURKHO may have equalled or outnumbered  
 SULEIMAN in force, having started, it is said, with  
 no fewer than 55,000 men—one account says 55,000  
 infantry alone—and probably at that time having at  
 least 45,000 effective men, yet SULEIMAN could have  
 held this route to Adrianople against him. He had  
 the advantage of position; GOURKHO was steadily  
 lengthening his line of communication, while SULEI-  
 MAN was nearing his own base, and had an intact  
 railway in his rear, which could bring reinforcements  
 to him. Still, as the Servians were now fully occupy-  
 ing the Turks in GOURKHO's rear, the latter did not  
 need to fear for his communications. Indeed, we  
 think that a great mistake is made in underestimating  
 the service rendered by Servia at this juncture. It  
 is often said that she came in at the eleventh hour,  
 to march to easy victory. But Servia and Montene-  
 gro kept employed tens of thousands of Turkish  
 troops who were sorely needed to check the advance  
 on Adrianople. At Nisch alone Servia captured 8,000  
 Turks.

Now came the move which sealed the fate of SULEI-  
 MAN and Adrianople. When GOURKHO was well on  
 his way, the direct advance on Adrianople was made  
 in force. This had been skillfully planned, and was  
 admirably executed. Instead of simply endeavoring  
 to drive the Turks out of Shipka Pass, it was re-  
 solved to capture them *en bloc*. For this purpose  
 the device of a front and flank was again resorted  
 to, two columns under RADETZKY and SKOBELOFF  
 advancing, the one through Shipka and the other  
 through the Trojan Pass, about thirty miles to the  
 west. After severe fighting, which cost the Rus-  
 sians 5,464 men, in killed and wounded, they gave  
 the Turkish cause its death-blow by capturing the  
 Shipka army—about 25,000 prisoners, including 280  
 officers, four having the rank of pasha, and 81 guns.

Up to the time of this irretrievable, and, as it  
 seems to us, inexcusable disaster, the Turks had a  
 fair possibility of checking the advance upon  
 Adrianople until the then pending negotiations for  
 an armistice and for peace had been concluded. It  
 may be said that the line of the Balkans was too  
 extended for a successful defence after Plevna—that  
 the Russians were sure to break through somewhere.  
 But the Turks would not have been justified in giv-  
 ing up so fine a natural defence, aided as it was by  
 the difficulties of traversing in winter, and by the  
 ready means of reinforcing almost any threatened  
 pass by the Roumelian railways. Instead of with-  
 drawing and concentrating towards Adrianople, the  
 Turks were justified in defending Adrianople as far  
 away as possible, first, because their Balkan works  
 were already there for that purpose, and, secondly,  
 because they would gain time, which was all impor-  
 tant, whether peace should be concluded or not.  
 The great blunder or calamity was that the Shipka  
 force did not do what SULEIMAN accomplished,  
 namely, keep open its line of retreat, instead of suffer-  
 ing a superior force to shut it up and so speedily  
 capture it.

When, however, Shipka had fallen, it became  
 necessary to abandon the line of the Balkans and to  
 fall back rapidly on Adrianople both from the north  
 and the west. This SULEIMAN attempted to do.  
 But either he was sluggish or the Russian cavalry  
 were unusually active. At any rate, finding nothing  
 but a few disorderly fugitives between them and  
 Adrianople, the Russians pressed down upon the  
 latter city. With true military instinct, the first  
 move of SKOBELOFF was southwesterly from Shipka  
 to the rear of SULEIMAN. The latter took the alarm  
 and retreated through Tatar-Bazardjik, and mean-  
 time the Turks at Kazan, which is south of Osman  
 Bazan, and far to the east of Shipka, seeing their line  
 of retreat endangered by the fall of Shipka, retreated  
 through the Bokaz Pass, abandoning that to the  
 Russians, who thus had free passage anywhere  
 through the Balkans.

Before SULEIMAN could reach Philippopolis on his  
 way to Adrianople, SKOBELOFF had occupied that  
 important point, thus cutting SULEIMAN's railroad



line; further to the east, Russian cavalry had got on the railway, and even had reached Hirmanli. The question for SULEIMAN was no longer how to save Adrianople, but how to save his army. He avoided the fate of Plevna and Shipka with creditable energy. Set upon by the combined forces of GOURKHO and SKOBELOFF, after a series of severe battles, costing him, it is said, 4,000 killed and wounded and 8,000 prisoners, he brought off the remainder of his army by a southerly retreat into Macedonia, through the Rhodope mountains, to Drama. Thence a short march carried his troops to the sea, and they were transported to Gallipoli for the defence of Constantinople. Meanwhile, with the two armies of Shipka and Sophia thus eliminated from the defence of Adrianople, the ancient city fell into the hands of the Russians without resistance, the Turkish garrison burning their provisions and destroying their ammunition before the evacuation. The forces from Kazan and the various troops from Adrianople and its outlying defences, moved eastward to Kirk Kilissa.

Thus ended the regular campaign from Plevna to Adrianople. It seems to us in some respects the masterpiece of the Russians during this war, unless we except the crossing of the Danube, which was a much more limited operation. As for the Turks, some of the misfortunes of their Adrianople campaign may be safely ascribed to the fact that they have had to fight at once not only Russia but Roumania, Servia, Montenegro, and even Greece; for this latter country got up a slight insurrection at the last moment. The fate of Adrianople was settled by the disaster of Shipka, which nullified SULEIMAN'S plans.

Since the fall of Adrianople and the retreat of SULEIMAN, the Russians have been moving down towards Constantinople, and, according to the latest news, have reached Demotica, south of Adrianople, and also Kirk Kilissa, on the east, where MEHMET ALI'S army was lately posted; but save for the Servians and Montenegrins, who have been still very active, military operations have been somewhat subordinate to the peace negotiations.

#### COMPULSORY RETIREMENT.

FRENCH army circles are somewhat disturbed, like our own, over the problem of compulsory retirement. The question is by no means one-sided; the system has most unquestionable advantages, and yet it has drawbacks. The French army regulations, we believe, put a captain on the retired list at the age of 53; a commandant or major at 56; a lieutenant-colonel at 58; a colonel at 60; a brigadier-general at 62; a general of division or major-general at 65—the time of retirement being the completion of these respective years. The great difficulty is, that, while age usually takes away elasticity and brings love of ease, some old officers are in every way vigorous and active, are physically equal to any service, and have in addition a store of experience that younger officers lack.

On this ground some of the French military journals dispute the wisdom of the retiring rules. Thus, the *Journal des Sciences Militaires* cites, as examples of military energy at an advanced age, BUGEAUD, who was 60 at Italy and 66 in the Kabylie; SUWARROW, who crushed the Polish outbreak at 65, and defeated JOUBERT at 70; RADEZKY, who won Novara at 83; PELISSIER, who was 61 at Sebastopol, and MOLTKE, who was 71 when he captured Paris. These examples could have been easily extended. In the Franco-German war we had other great septuagenarians—ROON, STEINMETZ, whose over-eagerness to attack at Forbach was rebuked, and King WILLIAM himself. The English service has been notably, in past times, commanded by old officers, and its highest grade was composed, we think, a few years ago, of men above 65 or 70—some of them, indeed, over 80, but well preserved and well padded, as they bobbed up and down in their horseback rides through London. In our own experience, the Mexican war was largely fought by middle-aged or old generals. WOOL was in his 60th year at Buena Vista; WORTH in his 54th at Chapultepec; TAYLOR captured Monterey on his 63d birthday; SCOTT was in his 64th year when he entered, as conqueror, the city of Mexico.

On the other hand, as we all know, our great civil war was fought by officers of whom not one in a

hundred would have been touched by a system of compulsory retirement like that of the French. Besides, it is well remembered that though high officers of the Mexican campaign, like SCOTT, WOOL and HARNEY, were still extant and in health, in 1861, the conduct of campaigns either was not intrusted to them at all, or, if it was, might have been given with palpable advantage to younger men. The civil war was fought by the young officers of the Mexican war and by the still younger officers who, like SHERIDAN, for example, were mere boys in 1846. Such evidence from our own recent history carries overwhelming weight.

These considerations, it is true, do not cover the whole ground. There still remains the objection that extraordinary activity as well as military ability is sometimes seen at advanced age; and the question arises, whether by a fixed rule a country shall arbitrarily deprive itself of the benefit of such ability. ALEXANDER, CÆSAR and NAPOLEON made their great campaigns young; but if, on that ground, Count MOLTKE had, been retired a dozen years ago, there would very likely have been no Sadowa, no Sedan, no German Empire to-day. While this is true, however, we cannot doubt that the general rule is that battles are fought and won by young officers, or officers in middle life, and that only by rare exception does age equal the vigor and fire of youth. A wise system must be based on the rule, and not on the exception. Besides, unless the rule is made uniform by the arbitrary standard of age and not of fitness, there will be no compulsory retirement at all. In its place we shall have only voluntary retirement, or else a system of invidious selection for retirement, which would probably be more unjust and certainly more individually cruel than either. The true points to have carefully secured in a plan of compulsory withdrawal seem to us to be, first, the careful grading of the age of retirement with reference to the rank attained, and possibly with reference to some peculiarities of the service; secondly, the securing of such honors and emoluments to the retired officer as will make his decree of retirement the welcome "Well done, good and faithful servant," rather than the harsh sentence of "Inspected and condemned." It also seems to us desirable that such a law should note carefully the actual ages at which grades on the average are attained. With the rough usage that our little Army gets, an officer who enters the Service in youth will be safe to have reached his captainship long before the French retiring age of 53; but to rise to the field, from the captaincy is quite a different problem from rising to a captaincy from the first lieutenantcy: again, the higher grades of service, in which one has the benefit of staff aids, regimental or other, naturally exact less leg-power, for example—in a word, less general physical endurance—than those of the captaincy. It might also be desirable to lighten the first application of such a system by appointing a future day for its taking effect; for, when once the retiring age is looked forward to, as a matter of course, and with ample preparation, it will no longer be viewed as a hardship, and by many it will be hailed with satisfaction. The subject of special restorations to active service should also be carefully considered, because this, if properly cared for, would really obviate nearly all the objections made to depriving the country of military experience, in times of exigency, or in cases of exceptional genius.

We think that the more this subject is looked into, the stronger will be the argument for adopting a graded system of retirement. Of course it would be a mistake to reason on analogy as to the proper retiring ages from the European military establishments, whose size, constitution, and experience are so different from our own; but it seems to us that our own history and the dictates of common sense teach us that some system of retirement would be advantageous to the Army. That younger officers would be inspired by the opportunity thus offered to achieve promotion and distinction at an age when they would presumably have received it in civil pursuits, is unquestionable; and such advantages would aid in keeping ambitious and spirited officers in the Army. When they in turn become old, they must give way to younger men; and they might well be content to retire with the fullness of honors upon them, to enjoy a long evening of life, instead of being kept at duties which demand for their most effective per-

formance the enthusiasm, the animal spirits, and the tough endurance of youth. If the right kind of system of compulsory retirement were framed, it should appeal for support as strongly to veterans as to youth.

#### REORGANIZING THE ARMY.

MR. BANNING on the 28th of January introduced a bill to reduce the Army to 20,000, leaving six cavalry and three artillery regiments, and fifteen infantry regiments of four battalions each, two to constitute the peace establishment. The bill abolishes the Bureau of Military Justice, consolidates the Quartermaster and Subsistence Departments, and reduces these and the Adjutant-Generals and Inspector-General's Departments, providing for Staff details from officers of five years' service in the Line. The Paymasters are reduced to 25, and a board of three major-generals is to report upon the reorganization of the Engineers and Ordnance, and the Secretary on the Medical Department. The general officers are to be one General with two aids, one Lieutenant-General, and one Major-General, with two aids each (majors), and three Brigadier-Generals with two aids (lieutenants). All officers below the rank of Colonel to be examined before promotion, and all promotions below the grade of general officer to be lineal; all appointments as 2d Lieutenant to be from the Academy or from non-commissioned officers of the Army. Retirement to be compulsory at 63 or after 45 years' service, and details for colleges to be from the retired list. Extra lieutenants (as adjutants and quartermasters), laundresses and wagoners are abolished. All professorships at the Military Academy to be by detail from the Army. All orders for the Army to be issued through the General of the Army, with headquarters at Washington. Chiefs of Staff Departments to be Chiefs of Staff to the General in all matters connected with military operations.

This is an outline of this important bill, as reported by telegraph. It has not yet been printed. Mr. BANNING also introduced a bill decreasing the pay and allowances of commissioned officers \$1,250,000 per annum, and increasing that of non-commissioned officers \$55,000, as follows: The general, \$10,000; the lieutenant general, \$8,000; major general, \$6,000; brigadier general, \$5,000; colonel, \$3,000; lieutenant colonel, \$2,500; major, \$2,000; captain, mounted, \$1,800; not mounted, \$1,600; first lieutenant, mounted, \$1,600; not mounted, \$1,400; second lieutenant, mounted, \$1,200; not mounted, \$1,000; ordnance storekeeper, \$1,600. The second section makes considerable reductions in the allowances for forage and for rent of quarters. The third section increases the pay of non-commissioned officers as follows: Sergeant major, \$34 per month; quartermaster sergeant, \$33; chief trumpeter, \$24; first sergeant, \$33; sergeants, \$24; all corporals, \$20 per month.

We understand that other members of the House Military Committee are wrestling with a bill for reorganizing the Army, but thus far no bill has been reported. It will, doubtless, prove to be, when completed, a model of legislative wisdom, showing us precisely how we can contrive to always have the right number of men in the right place at the right time, without expending a cent on soldiers, except when they are actually in line of battle, or wasting money on recruiting, fatigue parties, or other men in uniform, except those who are visibly standing ready at all times to prod some one with a bayonet; how to command without officers, and to pay, shelter, provision and equip without employing a "useless staff." Such a bill is the only one which will satisfy the requirements of the reformers who argue that the millions spent upon our Army can be and should be saved to the public treasury.

It is certainly a great reform which they seek to accomplish, for it is one which in its logical results will restore to the primitive and only necessary occupations of agriculture and cattle-raising the thousands whose labors are now wasted upon the multifarious occupations of modern civilization of far less account, in this utilitarian point of view, than that of the soldier. Even CAIN and ABEL could not keep the peace together; so that the very first occupation that became necessary after that of the tiller of the fields and the keeper of the flocks, was that of the defender of the soil. We commend the lesson to those in whose scheme for the organization of society the soldier finds no place.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

## THE BRITISH SOLDIER—PAST AND PRESENT.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: It is not strange that Great Britain should view with concern the complications in European politics growing out of the success of Russia in the contest with Turkey, which imperils her interests more than those of any other nation. In the far east her position in India is menaced by the approximation of Russian armies to her N. W. frontier, while, in the west, she shares in the apprehension that the influence of the Czar in the Mediterranean will jeopardize her commerce and damage her political prestige. Wherever Russian goods can find a market they thrust out the superior products of other countries. As Arthur Arnold writes in his "Through Russia, etc.," "Of all the powers Russia is the most ungenerous and unenlightened in her tariffs. She forces her wretched hardware and inferior cottons upon her subjects, and her near neighbors of the semi-barbarous sort, to the complete exclusion of the superior goods which England would supply." This statement, true enough now, was equally true forty-eight years ago. Traveling in Armenia, I saw Russian goods in the stores of Erzeroum and Bayazid, exposed for sale at prices lower than the produce of Austria, Italy, France, Germany and England—inferior in every way, but suited to the poverty of the people of Asiatic Turkey.

This was the result of the triumph of Russian arms in 1829. Thus, whether as a powerful rival in the peaceful walks of commerce or the fields of warlike strife, Russia is not an enemy England can afford to despise, and sooner or later she will have to try conclusions with the autocrat. It may be again in the vicinity of the Black Sea, or on the mountain fastnesses of Afghanistan and Northern India (no matter which locality) that bayonets will be crossed; it may be on the Mediterranean as well as in Persia that Russia will steadily strive to supersede the trade of Great Britain. Anyhow the sword will have to be drawn and the scabbard thrown away until a fresh and enduring curb has been placed on the advances of the military and mercantile cohorts of the great Northern power.

And England is now opening her eyes to the appalling fact. While she is debating the question of immediate action, we read of warlike preparations in the great British arsenals, and the leading papers confidently state that an army of 80,000 men can, at any moment, be placed in the field. This is an insignificant force to be opposed to the vast armies that Russia can still put in motion, and will scarcely do more than garrison a few fortresses or occupy a few assailable towns. But, in all the wars in which England has been engaged on the continent of Europe, she has only played the part of an ally of some nation numerically, at least, more powerful. In Belgium she had the support of Dutch, Nassau, Hanoverian and Prussian battalions; in Spain and Portugal she coalesced with the national troops; in the Crimea she was allied to the French, Sardinian and Turkish forces. But, to do her justice, she has always taken a lead in operations, and her commanders have been recognised as worthy generalissimos of the entire armaments. Hence, the character and composition of her soldiery is a subject of interest worthy general attention.

## THE BRITISH SOLDIER UNDER WELLINGTON.

With the exception of the Quebec affair in 1760, a share in the Battle of Minden, in the reign of George the Second, and the capture of Gibraltar in the time of Queen Anne, no events of any consequence distinguished the British soldiery during the eighteenth century. But, at the commencement of the present century, taught by the *dan* of the French revolutionary troops, the red coats began a career of success which, with little stop, has distinguished them to the present hour. They were freed from the pig-tails, powder and pomatum when they achieved a victory for Abercromby in Egypt, but the stiff leather stock, the heavy shako and belts and the ponderous smooth bore, still encumbered them in 1806, at Maida, in Calabria, where they beat the French under Regnier. It was the first time in which the two nations had met for more than a century unaided by the presence of other troops, and it proved the forerunner of many more important successes in the Peninsula of Spain and Portugal. In 1808, a large division accompanied Sir Arthur Wellesley to the shores of Portugal, and with the single break of the retreat to Corunna, under Sir John Moore, the British land forces encountered the French until 1814, when, victorious in every siege and battle, they planted their feet in the south of France, and supplanted the tri-color by the white flag of the Bourbons.

Their success was entirely due to the dogged bravery and endurance with which they followed the leadership of the "iron" Wellington. Nothing but the conviction that perfect obedience was the only guarantee of safety, to say nothing of ultimate triumph, sustained them under a multitude of trials. Let us glance at the condition of the soldier at that period. He was enlisted for unlimited service or a period of seventeen years—the bounty varying with his selection. His pay was one shilling (25 cents) per day, out of which he had to pay for his rations, his washing, and sundry damages done to accoutrements, arms, the barrack walls, and furniture. His clothing was of the coarsest description. Slight infractions of the Articles of War were punished by stripes (even to the number of 500) at the cat-o'-nine-tails. His promotion from the ranks rarely went beyond the position of sergeant or sergeant-major.

His officer had no fellow feeling with him, for he was regarded as "little better than a machine." For those who could read (and there were few of the British soldiery before the battle of Waterloo who had received any education) there were no libraries or other means of recreation in the barracks. The public house was the common resort of the men off duty, and when the time arrived for a discharge, either for unfitness to serve from wounds and sickness, or the lapse of the contract, a miserable pension of sixpence a day was sometimes reluctantly awarded the invalid.

In this condition he toiled and fought under "the cold shade of the aristocracy," getting drunk as a solace for his sufferings, and paying the penalty of his "solace" either in the guard house or the hospital. The love of drink, however, is the ruling passion among the lower classes of Great Britain and Ireland. As Iago says, "in England they are most potent in potting," and this perpetual thirst found ample gratification in the wine cellars of Spain and Portugal. On the march from the Tagus to Talavera the men of the Light Division would straggle from the road to the villages, and while one man was lowered into the cellars, laden with the tin canteens of his comrades, and drawn up with the canteens filled, the others were engaged in keeping the poor proprietors from interfering in the spoliation. On more than one occasion, however, the farmer or innkeeper would conceal himself in the cellar and, upon the appearance of a plunderer, stab him to the heart, and then escape by a subterranean passage.

General Crawford severely punished all stragglers. When they rejoined the line of march he would take their ramrods from them, and as soon as the division came to a halt the men were paraded, and those whose muskets lacked a ramrod were punished as delinquents. The toppers carried about with them memoranda of the places where good wine was to be had, and would continue to send copies thereof to their friends in the rear that they might stray from the line and take their fill.

Nor was it only in their vile passion for drink that the sensuous qualities of the soldiers found development. In the siege and sacking of such towns as Badajoz and San Sebastian they indulged in every kind of debauchery. If possible they exceeded the French in their atrocious disregard of the chastity of maidens and purity of wives. Nothing was safe from their villainy and violence. If the lyrics of the navy, originating with the tuncful muse of Charles Dibdin, cheered the sailor on his "watch below," and encouraged him to hate the enemies of England and stand to his guns while life remained, the songs of the British soldier were only distinguished by obscenity and coarseness of sentiment, bravado, and bald vulgarity; those of the officers, roared out at the mess table were not much better. Anacreontic for the most part they furnished excuses for prolonging the bibulous excesses which formed the ordinary post-prandial sequel, or appealed to the grosser senses when "Woman" was the theme.

Yet, in the face of all these miserable characteristics of the soldiery, down to the year 1852, their gallantry in the field was unimpeachable; they won innumerable battles and elicited the admiration of their foes. At Waterloo Soult told the Emperor he knew the English well, and in reply to the imperial expression, "they do not seem to know when they are beaten," the Marshal said, "they never give way."

So, in answer to a gentle remonstrance from one of his generals, who saw the infantry square thinning under the fire of the French artillery, and suggested a retreat, Wellington asked, "Will the men stand?" to which the General replied, "To the last moment, your grace;" "Then I'll stand with them," rejoined the Duke.

Bob Acres' exclamation, "We won't run, Sir Lucius," is ingrained in the British soldier. If he can rely on his commander, his own constancy may be assured. And he had the most profound reliance on "old hookey nose," as Wellington was called. In moments of danger, when pressed by a superior force, the sight of the Duke confirmed the troops in their resistance. "It's all right, here's old Hookey." Strange that so much reliance, which was certainly mutual, did not receive a more generous recognition at the hands of the illustrious chief. He assented to the issue of a medal to commemorate, on the soldier's breast, his share in the "battle of giants," but thirty-two years had elapsed before the Duke of Richmond could obtain for the army a medal and clasps in memory of the exploits on the Spanish Peninsula. By that time one hundred thousand of the old campaigners had died, "unwept, unhonored, and unsung."

## THE BRITISH SOLDIER OF TO-DAY.

The Duke of Wellington died in 1852. Reluctant to proclaim, by his own activity, the obstructiveness of his marvellous predecessor, Lord Hardinge, the new commander-in-chief, did not at once enter upon all the reforms suggested by the pitiful state of the army; but he addressed himself to some of the most urgent, for continental nations bid fair to eclipse the British in all that related to efficiency of equipment and the advances of science.

Nor was he one hour too early, for less than two years later the Crimean War called a large force into the field to do battle with the Russians. The affairs of the Alma and Inkermann, the charge at Balaklava, and the trenches at Sebastopol showed that better weapons had been supplied to the British army, and that the men had lost none of the spirit and capacity of endurance which distinguished them in former years. A camp of instruction had taught them how to provide for themselves in the field in the matter of shelter and cooking, and they acquired a knowledge of tactics differing in some degree from those to which they had been accustomed in by-gone years.

Happily, too, for their solid welfare an institution had arisen which never found favor with the Duke of Wellington, because sometimes its operations had a mischievous influence in apprising an enemy of the

movements, condition, and purposes of the army. The "newspaper correspondent" had become a regular appendage to the army, and through the honest representations of the men who assumed that responsible, laborious, and hazardous office, the nation was awakened to a sense of its duty to the brave soldiers who upheld its integrity and bore intense sufferings in a Russian winter with fortitude and patience.

From that moment the British army became an object of public solicitude. The sick and wounded received a degree of care undreamt of in the previous wars of civilized nations. Not only were supplies and delicacies forwarded in profusion to the theatre of action; not merely did thousands of those who "sat at home at ease" contribute to alleviate the sufferings of the gallant troops exposed to the inclemency of the season and the repeated attacks of a brave and resolute enemy; but woman, always a "ministering angel" to the invalid at home, did not hesitate to hasten to the scene of terrible strife and become the nurse of the thousands whose brows were wrung with pain and anguish.

The Crimean war at an end, reforms in the army proceeded at a rapid pace. Rifled muskets and conical balls entirely superseded the ineffective smooth bore and spherical bullet; the accoutrements were reduced in weight; epaulettes and heavy shakos were discarded; education became a *sine qua non* of a soldier's promotion; libraries were established in all the barracks; gymnasia were introduced; the pernicious system of promotion by purchase was abolished; decorations for good conduct and skill in rifle practice supplemented the medals awarded for service in the field; the pay of the soldier was augmented, and commissioned rank placed within the grasp of the deserving rank and file. Her "noble troops," as Queen Victoria styled them in her correspondence (recently published), vindicated their reputation by feats of high enterprise in India, when the Sepoys had mutinied, in Abyssinia and Western Africa, and the Duke of Cambridge, as commander-in-chief, soon acquired the power to declare at public gatherings that the army was in a most effective condition, and prepared to perform any service, that might devolve upon it.

There are still some drawbacks upon its efficiency which must be overcome, the Duke of Cambridge notwithstanding, before it can be all that the nation would desire. "The devil, drink," in spite of the efforts of temperance lecturers and the practice of fining tipsy soldiers, still haunts the regiments and fills the guard rooms and solitary cells, detaching sober soldiers to perform the office of custodians. Desertion is frequent because of the difficulty of apprehension. Men of loose principles forsake their colors, not from any distaste for the profession, but that they may enter into another and distant regiment and so obtain a fresh bounty and equipment. Some deserters have been known to enter, in succession, as many as seven regiments. The presence of such felons has a demoralizing influence in a corps and must be rooted out in some manner to prevent the spread of corruption.

These two evils being eradicated, as far as may be possible, the British army will doubtless reach the degree of excellence essential to its effective performance of the duties it may be called upon to perform in a great emergency. In what fresh locality its efficacy will be tested hereafter, in connection with the present ominous aspect of affairs, it is not easy to guess. Too weak, numerically, to play the aggressor, it must meet an enemy on the field of his selection. It may be that Egypt will require the presence of a British force to support the navy in protecting the Suez Canal against a blockade, for the route to India must be preserved intact. It may be that Persia will be selected by Russia as furnishing an easy path to Herat, the key to India, and that the Persian army may form a contingent of a Russian armament. A little diplomatic skill and a few men-of-war in the Persian Gulf might make the Persians the allies of England instead of her foes. But there is no reliance to be placed on their loyalty and fidelity, and, after all, they are as contemptible as enemies as they are unserviceable as friends.

Just 20 years ago, Sir James Outram, at the head of a small British force, sent from Bombay, defeated a far superior body of Persian regulars, actually breaking their squares of infantry by charges of light cavalry. And it will not be forgotten that when Herat was besieged in 1838 by a Persian army, guided by Russian intelligence, the defence made under the auspices of an English officer compelled the Persians to raise the siege and retire from the field. Although, therefore, a collision between Russian and British troops may afford England some ground of apprehension, she may contemplate the struggle without positive dismay. She has good generals, who have proved safe leaders, as witness Lord Napier of Magdala and Sir Garnet Wolseley—both in the prime of life. The annual field operations, and the Kreigspiel in garrison, familiarize the officers with the science of war, and it may consequently be expected that, whatever the result of the passing conflict, the British soldier of to-day will uphold the reputation of his less fortunate, in respect of treatment, predecessor in the fields of Spain and Waterloo.

J. H. SIDDONS.

## EMPLOYMENT FOR RETIRED OFFICERS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: As economy in public affairs is now the cry, why cannot something be done to give employment to retired Army and Navy officers in a civil capacity under the Government, and thereby relieve them from enforced idleness? There are many on the retired list in both branches of the U. S. service, who, by reason of physical infirmity, are unfitted for active service on sea or land, yet are thoroughly competent and able to act as pension agents, district superintendents of life saving stations, U. S. consuls abroad, and would gladly



accept such positions, but are debarred from doing so under the present laws. The one-fourth additional pay they would receive would be no expense to the Government, as it would save the much larger pay now given to present incumbents, and it would very materially add to the efficiency of these civil branches of the Government service. The President should have the power to detail retired officers to these positions when vacancies occur, upon the application of officers, and I would suggest that an effort be made by retired officers to secure the necessary legislation.

The Senate Committee on Pensions has been considering the propriety of abolishing all pension agencies and paying pensions from Washington, the consolidation of agencies having made the districts so large as to render them almost useless, and subjecting pensioners to great delay and inconvenience. Now, put an Army officer in charge of the bureau, establish an agency in the capital of every State under charge of a retired officer, and the system will be right. No additional expense will be entailed on the Government and pensioners will not be inconvenienced.

## UNEMPLOYED.

NEW YORK, January 19, 1878.

## HINTS FOR THE LINE.—NO. V.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: Add the Marine Corps to the infantry corps of the Army. Call it the 26th Infantry uniform and organize it as an infantry regiment; send it to the frontier to perform infantry duty. Detail the infantry regiment that has been the longest on frontier duty; send it to the eastern coast to occupy the Navy-yards and to furnish the necessary marine guards for shore and sea duty. Send the infantry regiment that has been next longest on frontier duty to occupy the Navy-yards on the Pacific coast, and to perform the necessary shore and sea duty of marines. Fix the tour of duty of these regiments at say three years, then relieve them by the two infantry regiments that have had the longest frontier service. While on marine duty the regiment should probably report to the naval authorities instead of the Army.

The above method will probably reward long service on the frontier. It will make the Army acquainted with the Navy, and will give the Marine Corps the promotion it needs.

LINE.

## CAPTURE OF THE NEZ PERCES.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Judging from your running commentary in the JOURNAL of Dec. 15, upon certain orders from Gen. Howard, it would appear that the misapprehension of essential facts regarding the capture of the Nez Percés, that has ramified so widely through the papers, has affected the JOURNAL also.

Regarding the ordering by Gen. Howard of the six companies of the 7th Cavalry, with Gen. Sturgis, to report to Gen. Miles, the facts are that they belonged to Miles' command, had been detached to Judith Gap by Gen. Miles' orders, early in August, to intercept the Nez Percés should they evade the troops in Western Montana, and had become temporarily a part of Gen. Howard's force by his assumption of command when his force joined them near the Upper Yellowstone early in September. Their order to rejoin, dated October 8—eight days after Miles' command struck Joseph's band, and three days after the band surrendered—did not enable Miles to "strike Joseph with the success he did."

No fault attaches to any one for their not joining when ordered; they simply were not needed, and with the exception of two companies, that, as escort to ambulances and transportation for the wounded, met the command when marching back with its train of captive Indians and ponies, they returned to the Missouri River, as ordered by Gen. Miles, by the west side of, and separated from, the remainder of the command by the Little Rockies, an impassable range of mountains some fifty miles in extent.

The skillful and experienced Surgeon Tilton, and his intelligent Assistant, Gardner, cared for the wounded, conducted them 115 miles to the Missouri River, placed them on the steamer *Silver City*, when the care of them devolved upon Surgeon Alexander. So "Miles' command was" not "in a helpless state for want of surgeons."

The ill-advised representations that the movements of Miles' command were suggested, planned, or in any degree executed by any person outside of that command, as well as other misrepresentations of a similar nature, are plainly contradicted by official records.

With excellent opportunities to obtain information of the feeling in the little command that captured Joseph's band, I am prepared to state that there has not at any time been any manifestation on the part of members of that command of a disposition to detract from the services of, or criticize adversely, any other command, and they are as little disposed to see the fruits of their own endurance and well-earned victory seized by others.

## RECEIPTS FOR THE NAST TESTIMONIAL.

Officers and men of Co. C, 8th Infantry, Camp McDowell, A. T.	\$12 50
Officers and men at Little Rock Barracks, Ark.	6 50
Capt. J. Simpson and eleven men at Carlisle Barracks, Pa.	3 00
Co. K, 14th Infantry, and four officers of 14th Infantry.	8 25
Forty-two officers at Fort Leavenworth.	10 50
Lieut. F. West, 6th Cavalry, Camp Bowie, W. T.	1 00
Men of Co. C, 3d Infantry, Helena Barracks, M. T.	6 00
Two officers at Camp Stambaugh, Wy. T.	5 00
Officers and men of Cos. A and F, 9th Infantry, and L, 5th Cavalry, at Fort McPherson, Neb.	20 25
Garrison at Fort Union, N. M.	4 25
Garrison, Camp McDowell, Nev.	3 00
Previously acknowledged.	\$107 69
Total receipts.	\$178 37

## THE RIO GRANDE.

A SUFFERER sends us this poetical statement of his sentiments concerning the crooked stream which divides us and Mexico:

The Devil was granted permission one day,  
To select him a land for his own special sway:  
He looked around for a month or more,  
And ripped and snorted and terribly swore;  
But at last was delighted a country to view,  
Where the prickly pear, and mesquite tree grew.  
After a survey brief, he took up his stand,  
On the eastern shore of the Rio Grande.

Some little improvement he had to make,  
For his own reputation, he felt, was at stake;  
An idea struck him; he swore by his horns,  
To make a complete vegetation of thorns.  
So he studded the land with prickly pear,  
And scattered mesquite trees everywhere,  
"Spanish daggers" stiff, sharp pointed and tall,  
Were spread around to out-stick them all.

He imported Camanches direct from H—I,  
The tide of his sweet-scented train to swell:  
A legion of Skunks whose loud, loud snarl,  
Perfumed the regions he loved so well;  
And for his life he couldn't see why,  
The river did not enough water supply;  
So he swore if he gave it another drop,  
They might take his head and horns for a mop.

As he thought the Rio Grande not crooked enough,  
He twisted it up about "quantum suff."  
So the birds when they seek to fly over its tide,  
Are surprised to alight on the starting side.  
He poisoned the land where the river runs,  
With the most subtle poison under the sun,  
And promised himself 'n his almy brink,  
The control of all who from it should drink.

He fixed the least heat at one hundred and seven,  
And banished forever the moisture of Heaven.  
He remarked—as he heard his furnaces roar—  
That the heat could get to five hundred or more.  
He wished he'd be d—d if potatoes should grow,  
Or anything else that was fodder, by Jol!  
And when he had fixed things all thorny and well,  
He said "I'll be d—d" its a Joy to H—I.

He was satisfied now, He'd done all that he knew,  
And vanished from earth in a blaze of blue,  
And no doubt now, in some corner of H—I,  
Gloats over the work he accomplished so well,  
And vows that on earth is no "hellisher" land  
Than the eastern bank of the Rio Grande.  
For with his own realm, it compared so well,  
That he felt assured it was "nearly H—I."

## AMERICAN SOLDIERS

THE *International Review* for November-December (New York, A. S. Barnes and Co.) publishes a review, by General J. H. Wilson, of Dr. Mahan's egotistical work on the American War. "The minds of most military men," says Gen. Wilson, "and in a less degree those of such civilians as have carefully studied the events of the late Rebellion, will be prepared to doubt the author's impartiality, as well as his critical judgment, when they are informed that he assigns to Gen. Fremont, whose military career was certainly a failure, the highest place among our commanders for strategical skill and administrative ability; that he bestows his warmest praises upon Pleasanton, Hooker, Rosecrans, and Sickles, and his severest censure upon Grant, Sedgwick, Meade, and Sherman. . . . The fact is that the work before us is not history in the broader and better sense, but a superficial and intemperate essay upon the strategy of the campaigns conducted by the Union generals. It takes no note of logistics, that important branch of the military art which embraces the details of moving and supplying armies, and still less of those topographical features of the theatre of war, such as forests and mud roads, and the absence of open fields and paved highways, or of the influences of climate and seasons which are so potential in modifying, hampering, and defeating the plans of even the greatest generals. . . . When it is remembered that in ordinary warfare twenty days are generally consumed in marching to one in fighting, some idea may be had of the relative importance of a general's knowing how to march and supply his army, and how to manoeuvre and fight it. . . . No thoughtful person would expect the cool, imperturbable, and steadfast Grant, acting under the limitations imposed upon him by those in authority, to conduct a campaign or fight a battle like Caesar, who was loyal to nothing but his own ambition, and had no end in view but that of subduing Rome to his wishes. It is absurd to expect that the brilliant and impulsive Sherman should have managed an army like the cautious but far-sighted Fabius, or that the loyal, deliberate, and pure-minded Thomas should have acted under any conceivable circumstances like the intrepid but licentious Antony. There is no ground for comparing the enterprising and invincible Sheridan with the cool, cautious, and calculating Moreau. There is not the slightest similarity between the enlightened, polished, and scholarly Meade and the intrepid but rapacious Massena. These men differ from each other not only in temperament and character, but they lived in times and were surrounded by circumstances entirely dissimilar. . . . It is not to be doubted that many of our generals, from McClellan to Grant, committed grave mistakes both in conducting campaigns and in fighting battles; that the majority of them violated the fundamental principles of the military art, that our government in all its departments fell into grievous errors of practice as well as of policy; that our army was organized and administered under a false and extravagant system, or lack of system; and, in short, that we gained our final victory at a terrible sacrifice of blood and treasure, largely by 'main strength and awkwardness' rather than by the economical use of men and means, or the scientific application of military principles and maxims. But, withal, neither our generals nor our army were so much worse than those of other nations as to deserve the sweeping terms with which our author has denounced them. Military critics may differ as to whether or not McClellan threw away his chances after assuming command of the Army of the Potomac, or Grant made a blunder in his plan of campaign against Vicks-

burg; but there is no room for doubting that the former organized an army which, through a thousand vicissitudes, bore itself with unusual constancy and courage, or that the latter was fortunate enough to conduct all his undertakings to an honorable and successful issue. . . . The burden of this author's criticism is that the country had during the war no first-class generals (except his own unfortunate hero and perhaps himself). Admitting this to be true, let us ask what the country has ever done or is now doing to supply itself with generals? It annually turns out of West Point forty or fifty young soldiers, well grounded in the fundamental principles of the military art, but here its efforts are at an end. Military service in our country is confined to operations against the Indians, to company duty on the frontiers, or to the care of a few isolated fortresses on the sea coast, and to nothing else. Such service tends to dwarf rather than to enlarge the intellect; if under it our country can point to the records of such generals as Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Thomas, Meade, Warren, Hancock, Humphreys, Upton, McKenize, and many others whose names are as household words, it should be a matter of pride rather than of complaint. If it would now select fifteen or twenty experienced officers of the various arms of service and send them to Europe, paying all their expenses, and directing them as spectators of the great campaign in the Balkans and at Kars to study the military art, it would do more than a thousand such books as the one before us to provide us with a great general for the next war in which it may be our evil fortune to engage."

A CORRESPONDENT sends us this bit of fashion gossip: "An entertainment was given, on the 22d of January, by Mrs. LeBoutillier, at her residence, on Walnut Hills, near Cincinnati, in honor of Miss Rosecrans, daughter of Gen. Rosecrans, who is visiting her friend Miss Lincoln, of Cincinnati. Ten young ladies were invited to luncheon. The table, with its decorations of flowers and fruit, and its display of rare antique china and glass, was remarkably elegant. Rosebuds were the only flowers used, each guest being presented with a bouquet. The hostess was assisted by her daughter, Mrs. O'Connell, wife of Lieut. O'Connell, 1st U. S. Infantry. Miss Rosecrans appeared in a dress of rich black silk, with deep collar of Brussels point, white velvet hat, trimmed with ostrich plumes. Miss Lincoln wore a costume of turquoise blue and black silk, bonnet entirely composed of pale blue flowers, turquoise and gold ornaments. Mrs. LeBoutillier wore an imported costume of black silk and cashmere, coiffure and scarf of old English thread lace, pearl and onyx jewelry. Mrs. O'Connell wore a black velvet princess dress, diamond ornaments."

MINNIE, the colored graduate of Grammar School, No. 29, New York, who last year passed the competitive examination for the West Point cadetship offered by Congressman Muller, of the Fifth District, has returned home, having failed to pass the January examination for advancement. Minnie informed the *Times* reporter: "In the public school in this city from which he had graduated he had associated with his school-fellows freely and as an equal, but in the Academy, from the very moment he entered he was 'out dead,' and subjected constantly to a galling ostracism. Of the 300 white cadets in the institution there were but three or four that would speak to a colored student outside of official communication. The others never opened their lips to one except to curse or revile him. Even when the few to whom he alluded as being willing to address a colored student, were seen by their fellows in conversation with a colored cadet, they were remonstrated with, and every precaution taken to prevent their repeating the offence. The only relief from this social persecution was the considerate and gentlemanly treatment of the Professors and officers, who, Minnie said, allowed no distinction of race or color to alter their bearing toward any student."

A RECENT London letter to the Newark (New Jersey) *Daily Advertiser*, says: "London presents the appearance of a city in the course of being rebuilt. In all directions houses are being torn down for the purpose of widening existing streets, or making new ones, or creating squares, or clearing sites for new blocks of shops, hotels, or private residences. The buildings now in course of erection are invariably of the most showy and, at the same time, substantial orders of architecture. The road beds are exceedingly firm, and the surface smooth and hard. The pavements are wide, strong and well laid. The gas lighting is liberal, and occasionally tasteful, particularly on the north bank of the Thames, from Westminster to Blackfriars' Bridge, along the new embankment, which is a *parterre* of flowers and shrubs by day, and a fairy-like illumination by night. But all this is modified, and the aspect of the city is to a certain extent disfigured, like blotches on a fair face, by excavations, heaps of rubbish, and the vast piles of earth, lime, stone, brick, timber and iron everywhere blocking the streets. There appears literally no end to the rebuilding and reconstruction of the metropolis. One set of improvements is no sooner finished than another is begun. In ten years London will probably be more beautiful in every quarter than Paris. Never was anything seen like it. Wonderful as the day is, the morrow is equally crowded with marvels. London is a succession of surprises, and they never cease."

DR. FAYSBUX, joining the Army of Gen. Greene, in North Carolina, during the Revolutionary War, called at the hut of Gen. Huger, the second in command, but was refused admission by the sentinel. The doctor insisted on his right to enter. The altercation was heard by the general, who, recognizing the voice of his friend, desired that he might be allowed to pass into the hut. "Pardon me, doctor," said the general, who lay on the ground, wrapped in an old military cloak, "for giving you so ungenerous a reception; but the fact is, the chances of war have robbed me of every comfort, and I confined myself to solitude and an old cloak while my washerwoman prepares for a future occasion the only shirt I own." If such was the condition of an officer of distinguished rank, what must have been the miseries of the rank and file. For days together the whole Army subsisted on Indian corn, grated down on tin canteens, in which holes had been punched for the occasion; every mill having been destroyed by the enemy. Gen. Huger and Col. Kosciuszko shared with a third officer for the greater part of one winter, an old cloak of the general's, being without a blanket, or any other protection whatever. The patience of Baron Steuben was put to a severe trial in his first efforts to establish a regular system of discipline. On one occasion, having exhausted all his German and French oaths, he vociferated to his aid de camp, Marjor Walker: "Vieu, Walker, vieu, mon bonami. Course damn de gacherie of dese badajuts, je ne puis plus. I can curse dem no more."—From Major Garden's *Anecdotes of the American Revolution*.



## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

**THE GENERAL STAFF.—INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.—CONTINUED.**—The first thing requiring attention in connection with the annual inspection and muster is the muster rolls. These are furnished to the different commands about two or three weeks before the date of muster. The inspector should furnish at first only enough to give one to each company and each field and staff. These rolls when prepared by the proper officers should be returned for examination, and when the roll is complete the inspector can furnish the additional copies so that the duplicates and triplicates being copies of the original which has been already inspected are sure to be correct, save for clerical errors, which may be eliminated if read by copy. In one brigade, which is said to have the most accurate and complete set of records in the State, due to the rigid system of inspections which has been in vogue for some years, the plan is followed of having the company descriptive book sent to the inspector with the muster roll. These should exactly correspond, otherwise there is either a false record or a false return. When the inspector receives the new muster roll, he should take the roll of the previous year and see that every man borne upon it is accounted for on the new roll. Next he should see that all the men accounted for as withdrawn from the command have been taken off the active roll in the descriptive book and have been recorded under the proper heading of discharged, died, etc. He should always see that against men "discharged" the date and number of the regimental special order are entered; against men "died" the date and if possible the cause of death; against men "dropped" the date of last duty performed; and against men "removed from the district" the date, and the place to which they have removed if it can be ascertained. Having verified all of these entries upon the roll he should next check the roll and the descriptive book so as to determine if every man contained in the one is to be found in the other, and vice versa.

Unless the company officers have been well instructed in the way of keeping the company records, the inspector will find it necessary to make many inspections for the purpose of pointing out errors and showing how they should be corrected. Gen. Ward, commanding 1st Brigade, N. G., a few years ago issued a G. O. to his command which contained a compilation of all the orders and regulations relating to regimental and company records with directions for carrying them out. It would greatly redound to the benefit of the service if a similar order were issued to every command in the State, as they would then have no difficulty in understanding exactly what is required, as some changes have been made since the issuance of G. O. No. 7, 1873, General Headquarters S. N. Y., for the compilation of which the service is indebted to Maj.-Gen. Woodward, then in command of the 2d Division. In order to ensure that the books and records are not neglected, inspections of them should be made as often as twice a year. To make these inspections anything but a farce, requires hard work on the part of an exceedingly intelligent officer. A book of fine appearance and correct form will upon examination sometimes be found to be far behind or to be entirely wanting in the record of many important matters. The presence of fresh ink in the recording of facts occurring several months previously will reveal the spasmodic attention given to these matters. The inspector must keep his wits about him to prevent being imposed upon, and to ensure that praise is accorded only when really merited. Company officers will often grumble long and loud over being required to give attention to these matters of detail, and they will sometimes be encouraged in this by their field officers, who in other respects are great sticklers for discipline. This course is a foolish one for several reasons. Long experience has shown the vital necessity for the existence of all the records required. There is a constant temptation to transact important business personally, no record of the transaction being preserved, an opportunity being created for great injustice to innocent parties. An efficient regimental commander who properly appreciates the responsibilities of his position will prevent such a course in his command. A regiment may be very proficient in drill, but unless the officers are educated up to a scrupulous regard for and enforcement of details, even when distasteful, a very important element of good discipline is wanting. Should the inspector find the records of any portion of the command neglected, he should immediately bring it to the notice of his superior officers.

It is often claimed by company commanders that the proper discharge of their active duties prevents their giving the time necessary for keeping their records correctly. This is a mistake; where the books and files are up to date ten minutes a week will ordinarily suffice to keep them so. Paragraph 40, General Regulations, makes it the duty of lieutenants to assist the company commander, and if any portion of the command be neglected the inspector should immediately take cognizance of it. A faithful inspection is always gratefully received by a faithful officer, as he knows that lazy, inefficient officers will not be accorded unmerited praise for duties which they have neglected.

Having completed the statement of what should be done in the way of preparing for the inspection and muster, we shall treat of those ceremonies next week.

**FIFTH NEW YORK.**—The non-commissioned officers of this regiment were assembled for drill under the instruction of Adjutant Pioeger on Monday, Jan. 28. The formation of the company of sixteen files was very slow, the sergeant-major making several mistakes. On the march in column of fours, the right guide had a distance of at least 50 inches, and although he was corrected and the proper distance explained, he could not keep the required 21 inches. A left front into line from the column of fours

was very bad, the fours were broken, many of the men failed to carry the piece to the right shoulder, while the dress was to both flanks at once. After executing the manual of arms in very fair form, the column of fours was again formed and the front into line executed in much better shape. The march and wheels company front were excellent as were an advance and retreat in double time. On right into line from the column of fours was bad, the fours breaking and straggling into the line while the manual was miserable, most of the men dressing after the halt before coming to the carry. The guides during these movements were very defective, moving at wrong times and going to wrong places. More than once was a movement spoiled through the ignorance of the guide. Single rank was next formed, the sergeant-major again blundering in the formation. A few platoon movements were executed only passably, the instructor as well as the lieutenants in command committing more than one error. At 9:30 this company was dismissed, the men divided into squads and instruction in guard mounting given. Throughout this ceremony was well executed, the non-commissioned officers as a rule being well up in their duties. The inspection of arms was very poor, the men failing to throw up the piece in anything like the proper manner. The passage in review was excellent. The 5th are steadily improving in drill and discipline.

The following drills are ordered to take place at the armory, in fatigue uniform: Cos. A and K, Feb. 11 and 25; B and C, Feb. 13 and 26; E and F, Feb. 19 and 27; D and G, Feb. 14 and 28; I and H, Feb. 15 and March 1; N. C. Officers, Feb. 7 and 21. The commissioned officers of Cos. A, B, C, E, and K, will attend the drill on Thursday, Feb. 7, and those of Cos. D, F, G, H, and I, that on Thursday, Feb. 21.

**EIGHTH NEW YORK.**—General Orders No. 1, 1878, from the headquarters of this regiment, directed that division drills be held at the armory during the month of January. Roll-call of companies was ordered for 8 o'clock, and the field officers were charged with the superintendence of the manoeuvres. We have repeatedly called attention to the delinquency in the matter of time of formation at company drills in this regiment, and on the occasion of drills ordered by General Orders it was naturally expected that promptness would be maintained; and so it was on January 25 as far as the men were concerned, for by fifteen minutes past eight Lieut. Geo. who acted as the adjutant, had equalized the three companies ordered to drill, A, G and I, into two commands of twelve front, and directed them to proceed to the main drill room. On reaching this hall the companies occupied the front and rear sides of the room, and commenced an instruction in the manual of arms. The General Orders above mentioned announced that Lieut. Col. Schilling would command these companies; but up to that time he had failed to put in an appearance. The acting adjutant in despair wandered from the stairs to the drill room; the company commanders could not keep their attention on the movements of the manual, while the men were to a certain extent impregnated with the anxiety of the officers, and were careless in the execution of the manual. Half-past eight and no colonel. The acting adjutant was becoming demoralized, it was suggested that he form the battalion and turn it over to the senior captain, but this he declined to do, stating that the officers present were just in commission, and did not desire to assume the responsibility, while if one captain took charge of the battalion, there would be no officer to command his company. To send to the colonel's house was the next brilliant idea; it was immediately acted upon, and at twenty minutes to nine o'clock the lieutenant-colonel reported for duty. From this specimen of promptness in obeying orders it can readily be seen why the discipline in the 8th has fallen off, and it does seem hard to blame the rank and file and company officers for not being on time, on the occasions of company and battalion drills, when the lieutenant-colonel fails to be present at an assembly which he was directed to superintend in General Orders. No doubt this officer has a good and sufficient excuse for his delinquency, but so have many of the men for their omissions. Are their excuses taken into consideration? Decidedly no; they are ordered to be present, and must account for a failure to obey orders to the regimental court-martial. Service in the National Guard is voluntary, and it is only by the example of officers and non-commissioned officers that the stern discipline of a soldier's life is maintained among our companies and regiments. If the officer is lax, so will be found his company or regiment. At the formation of the battalion, which was repeated a second time, the guide of the right company failed to invert his piece, while the acting adjutant after turning over the command advanced to the line of company officers instead of taking his position in the rank of file closers. A march in column of four commenced the drill, followed by on the left close column of companies. The step and distances were fair, but the company commanders failed to support arms at the close of the movement. This formation was repeated several times with only fair success, and then the column was formed "to the left." This was much better, but the guide of the rear company failed to face to the point of direction. Right of companies rear into column and wheel into line were fairly performed, although on one occasion the left company was slightly mixed owing to not hearing the command. On executing these movements by the left the captain of the second company dressed his command to the wrong flank. The wheels were excellent, the guides on the marching flanks describing a correct arc, while those on the pivots moved with the nine inch step, and perfected the movement in very handsome shape. On right into line from column of fours was excellent, the men moving promptly, and making the halt and carry distinct. Its repetition by the left was spoiled by the slowness of the guides. Column of fours break from the right to march to the left was very fairly performed, as was the same movement from left to right; in breaking by companies, however, the turn was ragged, while the first company remained at a carry. A repetition showed much improvement. Close column formations and deployments were then executed, the companies being repeatedly inverted, yet moving promptly and with fair precision, the principal errors being an occasional dress to the wrong flank. The centre forward was particularly good, as was the deployment by fours left rear company on left into line. The change was rapid and the movements completed in very handsome shape. Unfortunately, however, for the perfection of the movement both captains ordered support arms. These manoeuvres were repeated by the left equally well. A march in column with the changes of direction were carefully executed, while the marches in column of fours were excellent. The manual of arms, which closed the drill, was very poor. Considering everything, the drill was a good one, and the two junior captains deserve to be complimented on the manner in which they executed the orders of the instructor. It is a pity that the 8th cannot secure a few more just such junior captains. During the drill the men were steady and obedient, but after the dismissal and on the march to the company quarters the old leaven commenced to work. The discipline was broken, the men talking and laughing in the ranks, while many of them left their places in line and straggled individually to their rooms. The company commanders should hold their sergeants responsible for any break in the ranks, or for any unsteadiness during a march from the drill room to company quarters. A roll-call at the close of the drill might remedy the breaking of the ranks.

**NINTH NEW YORK.**—Companies F and G were at the armory on Jan. 29 for company drill, F with 27 and G with 18 files. Capt. Walton instructed Company F in the manual and a few movements in the main room, during which the men were very steady.

The march in column of fours was poor, the step being close on 120 to the minute, while the rear ranks of the fours were too close. A march in company front was excellent, as was the change to the column of fours. On right into line was also excellent, but there is no authority for the first lieutenant to place himself on the right flank and dress the company at the close of the movement. Right of company to the rear was only fair, the men bearing two sets of commands. The captain gave the first order, then the first lieutenant stepped to the front repeating the orders and virtually taking the company. His place is in the rank of file closers, and except in platoon movements he should not give commands. At 8:30 p. m. Company G marched into the large room, and a battalion of four companies of twelve files was formed with Capt. Walton in command. After a march in column of fours, battalion right front into line was ordered, the companies moving leisurely in the new direction and not a single one executing the double time at the turn. Column of fours break from the right to march to the left was fairly done as far as the men were concerned, but the lieutenants commanding invariably failed to move forward in season to join the previous company, consequently much distance was lost, and on the wheel into line time was wasted in the dressing. This movement by companies was marked by the same faults, added to which the "turn" was in every case miserable. A wheel by divisions and a march in column of divisions, with the four about and march in retreat were excellent; distances, guides and step being almost correct. To break into companies march in column and wheel into line were all fair, but considerable distance was lost during the march, and on wheeling into line great gaps existed between the companies. The double column of fours was neatly formed, while the deployment by fours right, left companies on right into line, was promptly executed. The guides, however, did not correctly mark the new alignment; and after the dress the commanders of the two right companies incorrectly ordered "support arms." These movements were repeated several times during the evening, officers and sergeants showing very fair proficiency, while the men were steady and anxious to learn. Capt. Walton is a good and careful instructor.

**FOURTEENTH NEW YORK.**—That the war record of the 14th regiment is not forgotten by the citizens of Brooklyn was fully demonstrated by the mass of people who scrambled for a good place from which to view the ceremonies of the formal turning over of the new armory on January 28. As early as 7 o'clock the visitors commenced to arrive, and when, at 8 p. m., the regimental band opened the ceremonies of the evening every available space was literally packed, nearly 6,000 people being in the building, the throng increasing minutely by the arrival of squads and detachments from sister military organizations. The building—a full description of which was given in the *Journal* of December 29—was brilliantly lighted and most tastefully decorated. The concert programme having been completed, at five minutes to 9 o'clock "assembly" was sounded; this was followed by first sergeant's call, the reports, etc., occupying some fifteen minutes, without any apparent use for which the regiment was turned over to Col. McLeer, the battalion presented was ten companies of unequalized fronts, two being sixteen, the others dwindling down by files to one command of only eight front. This formation, which should have been one of the best evolutions of the regiment, could hardly have been executed in worse shape. The companies entered from the passage way at the front of the hall, and marched and counter-marched along the color line, repeatedly crowding each other. Some of the companies entered the line at supposed proper distances, and before their turns, while much crowding was experienced in allowing sufficient space. There was no system, each company moving at its own discretion, and entering the line when its captain thought fit. When the formation was completed Supervisor A. D. McDonald, on behalf of the citizens of Brooklyn, formally presented to the regiment the keys of the building. The supervisor was enthusiastic in his speech, and warmly commented on the gallant services of the old 14th. Col. McLeer received the building on behalf of his regiment. A delegation of 113 officers and men of the 13th regiment then marched in review along the line; after which the battalion was prepared for review. Gen. T. S. Dakin, the division commander, being the reviewing officer. This ceremony in line was very handsome, the men presenting a solid front and remaining as steady as rocks; the passage, however, was spoiled by the unequalized fronts, and a loss of distance, caused no doubt by the change of front at the upper end of the room. The marching, alignments and salutes were as a rule excellent. At the close of the review, Dr. Farley, captain of the regimental team, formally presented to the regiment the trophies won at the late fall meeting of the N. R. A., and Col. McLeer, on behalf of the regiment, presented to the doctor an elegant sword and belt. The marksmen's badges won during the past year were then presented by Col. Wingate, the military ceremonies winding up with a very handsome "dress parade." Dancing was then commenced, and continued until an early hour. The regiment is now handsomely quartered, and with close attention to the full details of drill and discipline will soon rival, if not overstep, the crack organizations of either division. Let the officers and men remember what Dr. Farley said in turning over the trophies, "What the 14th do, they do well." Drill and discipline will soon follow.

**TWENTY-SECOND NEW YORK.**—The last of the first series of division drills was held in this regiment, at the armory, on January 23, Cos. C, E, I and K, being present, under the instruction of Major John H. Horsfall. The assembly was sounded at 8 p. m., and seventeen minutes later adjutant's call was beaten, the companies marching into line unequalized and with bayonets fixed. The rules for equalizing a battalion—paragraph 382, Tactics—was followed, the command on being turned over presenting a front of four commands of twelve files. This form of equalization may answer for all practical uses at West Point, where officers and guides are being habitually changed, and where the guides are accustomed to the voices and orders of different company commanders; but in the National Guard where the men are assembled for battalion drill only six or eight times in the course of the season, it is extremely questionable whether the changing of guides from one company to another increases either the efficiency of the guide or the promptness in execution of the movements. That it did not on this occasion was plainly perceived, for more than once company commanders and guides were at fault, while five sergeants were marking the line on the occasion of one deployment. It practices the guides, however, in a reliance on their individual knowledge, and therefore must be commended. It was twenty-five minutes past eight when the command was turned over, a few movements in the manual, a trifle slow and slightly ragged, commencing the drill. During this manual it was observed that the captain of the second company in line executed the present, instead of remaining at the carry. The marching in column of fours was then executed, alignments, step and distances of the fours being excellent; the right guides of companies, however, marred the general good effect by allowing great gaps between the companies. In most cases the distance allowed was seventy-six inches between the guides and front and rear fours. From the column of fours line was formed and the battalion advanced, the right wing breaking in the centre. A repetition, however, was excellent. From the column of fours right front into line was executed, the rear fours taking up the double time in line shape and remaining well together, while the halt and carry was most uniform. The dress and support arms of the company commanders was, here, very slow. After a march in column of fours a wheel into line with an advance and retreat in line of battle was beautifully redressed, after which the right front into line was again repeated. Its execution, however, was not equal to the first effort, the second com-



pany being very slow, while the left company marched too far to the rear, leaving a wide gap to be covered in the dressing. The double column of fours was neatly formed, but the deployment right and left into line was very straggling, the flank companies having advanced too far to the right and left, while the fours were considerably broken. A repetition was better, but not satisfactory to the instructor, for he again ordered the formation and deployment. This time it was well done. The deployment of the double column of fours by two movements was on the first execution spoiled by the loss of distance in the fours of the left company, and a slowness in the dress of the right companies; the repetition was, however, excellent. Right front into line faced to the rear was performed in a rapid and prompt manner, officers being quick in the giving of commands and the men solid in the execution. This movement to the left was almost as poor as that to the right was good, for the officers were particularly slow in orders, while the men were at fault in the about and dress. Right of companies rear into column was spoiled by the third company in line; the commandant was slow in the "fours left" and after the wheel into line, his regular sergeant having been changed in the equalization, he did not immediately find his guide. The march in column of companies was excellent, while the wheeling as a rule were good. A wheel into line, with "continue the march," was splendidly executed, not a particle of distance being lost in the marching and wheeling of the companies. This movement was repeated several times as a rule equally well, although more than once some distance was lost by the second company in line. Companies break from the right to march to the left was the poorest movement of the drill; considerable distance was lost in the changes of direction, while the first company wheeled instead of executing the turn. From the column of companies thus formed, the sub-divisions were marched by the flank, wheeled into line, advanced, broken into column, and again marched by the flank, the several changes, wheelings and marchings being excellent, and the manual good. At half-past nine o'clock the command was dismissed. The drill throughout was a most excellent one, the men were steady and solid, the officers well posted and prompt in the giving of orders, while the major, who is comparatively young as a battalion commander, handled the men in fine form. His orders were clear and distinct, and his manner and force at once impressed itself on the command. He was there to drill and not to waste time, and from the very start everything went smoothly. The adjutant was most efficient during the evening.

**THIRTY-SECOND NEW YORK.**—Drills for instruction have been ordered in this command, in fatigue uniform, at the armory, as follows: Line officers, Monday, Feb. 4; right wing, Cos. B, H, G, E, on Wednesdays, Feb. 6 and 20; left wing, Cos. F, I, C, A, D, on Tuesdays, Feb. 12 and 26. The several companies are ordered to assemble at the armory, in fatigue uniform, for rifle practice, during the month of February, as follows: Co. A, 7 and 21; B, 11 and 25; C, 6 and 20; D, 8 and 22; E, 14 and 28; F, 4 and 18; G, 13 and 27; H, 12 and 26; I, 5 and 19. The attention of the company commanders is in orders called to the fact they will not be permitted to order their respective companies to appear, on festive occasions, in the uniform of the regiment.

The Beebe Rifles, Co. F, will hold its annual reunion on February 25.

**FIFTY-FOURTH NEW YORK.**—The commissioned officers of this command are directed to assemble at the armory on February 8, March 15 and April 12, at 3 o'clock p. m., for instruction. Capt. Chas. R. Phifer, Co. C, and Second Lieut. G. M. Schwartz, Co. A, 5th regiment, having been found guilty of conduct unbecoming officers and gentlemen, and sentenced to be dismissed by a brigade court-martial, their names are ordered stricken from the rolls of their respective companies, to date from December 27, 1877. The action of Captain Wm. Wagner, Co. B, in reducing Sergt. John Stehler to the ranks for conduct unbecoming a soldier, and disrespectful language to his superior officer, is approved in General Orders.

**SIXTY-NINTH NEW YORK.**—The battalion drills of this command ordered in the State Arsenal are countermanded. Drills will be held in the following order, and continue weekly: Cos. A, B and C, on Monday, Feb. 4; Cos. D, E and F, on Wednesday, Feb. 6; and Cos. G, H, I and K, on Friday, Feb. 8. Assembly on each occasion in fatigue uniform, at regimental armory, at 8 o'clock p. m. Lieut.-Col. Wm. De Lacey and Maj. Edward Duffy will superintend the drills. Regimental court-martials are to be held in the months of June and January, and no excuse can or will be taken for absence, unless a furlough is obtained, or in case of sickness, a doctor's certificate. The non-commissioned officers are directed to assemble at the armory on Tuesday, Feb. 5, in full dress uniform, for inspection and drill; and on Tuesday, the 12th and 19th Feb., in fatigue, for instruction. Assembly on each occasion at 8 o'clock p. m.

**SEVENTY-FIRST NEW YORK.**—The first sergeant of Co. D, of this regiment, only needs one requisite to make him the equal of any sergeant in the 1st Division. This requirement is promptness. His company formation on January 24 was short, sharp and decisive, every little detail was from the "fall in" to the report, perfect, but he was just sixteen minutes behind the time established for the assembling of companies. Three sergeants and twenty-three men in single rank was turned over to the first lieutenant for company drill, of which a squad of five were thrown out for the recruit class. The manual of arms was the first instruction, and the lieutenant labored long and well to perfect the movements, but the slowness and inattention of five or six men, who should have been sent to the recruit squad, invariably spoiled the execution of the orders. The manual was otherwise fair, with the exception of the fix and unfix bayonet. In this movement, the direction of the tactics, that the butt should be carried to the left side and about eight inches to the rear, was completely ignored, many of the pieces resting in front of the centre of the body, while, as most convenient, either hand was used in drawing the bayonet. Marching in column of fours single rank was then executed, the step being very slow; distances and alignments were, however, excellent. A march company front was very handsome; but at the four about distance was invariably lost, and the line was repeatedly broken in the effort to secure the touch of elbow. The wheels, company front, were poor, the guides being faulty, and the men crowding in on the pivot, repeatedly broke the circle. After a short rest, the second lieutenant assumed command, and at attention a late file was allowed to fall in. Why will company commanders in the National Guard foster this pernicious practice of catering to delinquent men? The advantage gained by the addition of an extra file at a company drill is counteracted by the disgust of the good men, at the favoritism shown to these delinquents. The prompt men very naturally ask, what do we gain by being present before 9 o'clock, when men who report at any time before 9 o'clock are allowed the full privilege of membership without even a reprimand? The good men soon fall into the practice of reporting late, so that instead of assembly being ordered for 9 o'clock it is delayed at first five, then ten, fifteen or twenty minutes, and the very first principle of the duty of a soldier—obedience and promptness—is destroyed by the laxity of company officers. The movements executed in the first part of the drill were again repeated, and in about the same manner, the men being somewhat inattentive, with a decided inclination to talk in the ranks. Shortly after 9 o'clock Capt. Wm. C. Clark assumed command, and at once changed the movements. This change caused an improvement in the attention, for

the step was quicker and alignments carefully preserved. A left front into line from column of fours was executed with promptness and vim, while on right and left into line were excellent, the fours moving together and executing the manual in fair shape. The wheels on the march were good; but those from the halt were crowded toward the pivot man. The marching column of fours and company front were excellent. The drill was dismissed at 9:30 p. m.

**THE OLD GUARD BALL.**—One of the most brilliant assemblages ever gathered within the walls of the Academy of Music graced the military and civic reception of New York's veteran battalion on January 24. Thousands of fair women and brave men, the latter in all the gorgeous panoply of war, made the dancing floor a perfect kaleidoscope of grace and beauty, while the mass of color displayed on the box tiers bewildered and enchanted the eye. The stage presented a scene from "William Tell," the set representing the mountains of Switzerland, their snow capped tops reflected by the rays of light from thousands of gas-jets, as though tipped by a morning sun. On either side of the stage was a tent, in front of which was a mountain howitzer, two stacks of rifles, and a stand of snare-drums, while suspended from the flies was the legend in gas-jets: "Old Guard, L. G., 1826; C. G., 1833-1878." Flags, guidons, banners and bannerets were floating from the proscenium boxes, among which the "Palmetto" of the Washington Light Infantry of Charleston was prominent. The ball was opened at half-past ten o'clock, after which dancing and promenading were continued with intermission until early morning. At midnight the floor was partially cleared and a procession of the O. G. Guard and its guests served to exhibit the many gorgeous uniforms presented. Each veteran was accompanied by a guest, the line extending two complete circles of the floor. Among the organizations represented, besides the Army and Navy of the U. S., were the Washington Light Infantry, of Charleston; United Train of Artillery, Providence; Ancient and Honorable Artillery, Boston; Putnam Phalanx, Hartford; Boston Tigers, and the National Guard of Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York States. The Old Guard ball of 1878 will long be remembered as one of the great successes of the season.

**ARMORY RIFLE PRACTICE.**—The inspection of the armories of the 1st and 2d Divisions, N. G., S. N. Y., to ascertain their facilities for rifle practice is now going on. Those of the 3d Brig., 1st Div., were inspected on Jan. 18 by Col. Wingate, G. I. R. P., aided by the division and brigade inspectors; those of the 1st Brig., Jan. 22, and those of the 2d Jan. 29. The rifle gallery of the 7th is far ahead of anything else in either division, having seven targets, all of which can be used both in the standing and prone position, which admits of a large number of men shooting in a short time, the great desideratum in an armory gallery. The 8th regiment is noticeable for having the best arrangement in regard to aiming drill and indicator practice of any in New York, and the officers of other regiments will do well to examine them before fitting up their own. The 69th have erected a shooting gallery in their main drill room, but, like the 8th, they have been unable to use it for want of rifles and ammunition. The gallery of the 12th being in the cellar is damp, and has fallen into disuse. They have no arrangements for aiming drill or indicator practice. The 5th have a rifle gallery very ingeniously constructed in the eaves of their building, which is used to quite an extent, but have no other arrangements for instruction. The 22d have seven targets erected in their main drill room which have not been used for want of ammunition. They have arrangements which will admit of aiming drill being practiced. The result of the inspections has been to show that instruction in rifle practice for the season has not as yet been taken up in any of the regiments. The 7th have devoted a great deal of time to gallery practice, from twenty to fifty per cent. of their men are engaged in it, depending upon the interest taken by the company commanders. The matter is, however, voluntary, and while the good shots improve, the third class, who most need instruction, do not get it. In the other regiments the number shooting is very small, the gallery facilities being much less, and the want of a gallery, rifle, and expense of ammunition preventing it. The instruction of the National Guard will be greatly retarded unless some measure is taken to issue cartridges for armory practice. The new rifle designed by Gen. Wylie for that purpose should also be issued without delay. The men are anxious to learn to shoot, and it is a wise economy for the State to provide the facilities to enable them to accomplish as much as possible during the drill season so as to reduce the time required to be spent upon the range. No attempt has yet been made in any of the regiments to systematically instruct for rank and file, and particularly the third class. This, however, is owing to the necessity of devoting time to other parts of the drill in the beginning of the season. The matter will undoubtedly be taken up between now and the close of the drill season, and probably be directed and controlled by division and brigade orders.

**NATIONAL GUARD RIFLE PRACTICE.**—A prize has been offered by Col. Olyphant, of the staff of New York, to the National Rifle Association, the contest for which will involve new and valuable military features. It consists of an elegant bronze, and is to be shot for by teams of four files (corporals and privates) from each company in the National Guard of hand, at 200 yards, by volley and file firing in double ranks and according to the tactics. Five rounds are to be fired in file firing (under two minutes) and a like number in volley firing. The time is designedly long, but the intention is to cultivate deliberation and accuracy rather than speed. The contest will be very valuable as accustoming men to fire in ranks, there being a great difference between firing alone and unimpeded, and with a comrade on each side and one behind, all shooting at the same time. It will also be valuable as teaching the officers the proper method of giving their orders so as to secure an effective volley, a matter to which no attention has hitherto been paid. The badge is to be shot for monthly during the drill season, and will finally belong to the company whose team wins it the most times. It is to be hoped that the companies will devote themselves during the drill season to picking out teams to represent them in this contest. The practice in volley firing can be done as well in the armories with indicators as in any other way.

**ALABAMA.**—The late annual re-union of the Montgomery Greys was one of the most enjoyable ever held by the company. The dining hall was most gracefully decorated, while every seat was occupied. Among the distinguished guests were Generals D. H. Maury and D. B. Fry, Col. J. N. Gilmer and Adj. W. B. Jones, the ex-captain of the Greys. After justice had been done to the excellent repast, speech and song was made the order of the occasion. Generals Fry and Maury were particularly happy in responding to the toasts, while Captain Thos. G. Jones, Captain Winter, and Lieut. Graham were enthusiastic over the company and its most brilliant record. The party adjourned at about midnight.

Captain John Gano Winter has in the following letter declined a re-election to the command of the Greys:

"To the Montgomery Greys:

"GENTLEMEN: With great reluctance I now surrender the office which I hold in our organization.

"For nearly five years I have had the honor of being your chief officer. Your indulgence has been generous, and your enthusiasm and steadiness, you have supported me in the discharge of my duties. The association has been one of genuine pleasure to me, and I recall nothing to mar its recollection.

"I cordially thank you for the kindness and consideration with which you have always treated me, and assure you that a conviction of duty alone, could induce me to voluntarily sever my official relations with you.

"Gentlemen, you have a wide spread and enviable reputation, and I shall ever be proud that I was so long your commander.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN G. WINTER.

In reply the following resolutions were adopted by the company:

At the annual election of officers of the Montgomery Greys held at their armory, on Jan. 9, the following preamble and

resolutions were unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the company:

Whereas, Our beloved Captain, John Gano Winter, has deemed it expedient to resign his position as commander of this organization; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we appreciate the motives prompting his resignation, we sincerely deplore the loss we sustain.

Resolved, That we are truly conscious that the reorganization of this company was solely due to his zeal, and that whatever subsequent proficiency and celebrity it may have attained, is due to his wise counsel and administration.

Resolved, That while we regretfully accept his resignation as our leader, we rejoice to retain him as a comrade, and that we trust he may long honor our ranks by his presence and adorn them with his graceful accomplishments.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to Captain Winter; that they be spread upon the minutes of the company, and published in the Advertiser.

E. B. JOSEPH, H. D. HERRON, J. R. McMASTER, } Committee.

W. G. PATTERSON, C. W. KENNEDY, }  
Captain Thomas G. Jones was unanimously chosen captain vice Winter.

**GEORGIA.**—Our correspondent reports great animation in military circles throughout the State. Capt. John L. Conley, son of ex-Governor Benjamin Conley, has been elected commander of the Leeburne Rifles, of Atlanta.

Gen. Henry C. Wayne, of Savannah, formerly of the U. S. A., has written an able article for the "Military Department" of the Savannah Weekly News, on the present "Militia System" of the country.

The Stonewall Rifles, Capt. W. A. Wilkins, of Waynesboro', had a parade, drill and prize shooting on the 15th of January, and at night attended the military ball of the Wilkins Cavaliers. The Thomasville Guards paraded under command of their new leader, Capt. C. F. Hanson, on Gen. Lee's birthday, and had a prize shooting match. Sergt. A. F. Prevett won and wears the red plume for one year.

The Wilkins Cavaliers, of Waynesboro', Capt. J. P. Thomas, indulged in a lively sabre contest on the 15th January, and at night gave a grand military ball at which the successful knights crowned the fair ladies of their choice.

The 3d Georgia Battalion, of Macon, under its new commander, Lieut.-Col. C. M. Wiley, celebrated Gen. Lee's birthday, but with rather thin ranks, owing to press of business.

Savannah surpasses any city of the South in the quality and quantity of her citizen soldiery. There is nearly a regiment of well drilled and handsomely uniformed colored companies in that city, while the white organizations are the best in the South. All of them have had "hops" and social gatherings during the past month, which were greatly enjoyed. On Gen. Lee's birthday there was a grand military parade, Col. Clifford W. Anderson (brother of Gen. R. H. Anderson, and son-in-law of General Wm. Henry T. Walker, formerly of the U. S. A.) commanding the brigade, which represented the three branches of the service. The venerable Chatham Artillery, the Georgia Hussars (Gen. R. H. Anderson), the 1st regiment, and the Savannah Volunteer Guards (three companies) composed the column, and made a fine display. During the firing of the salute in the Park by the Chathams, Col. Anderson was thrown from his spirited horse and somewhat injured by the fall.

**CONNECTICUT.**—General Order No. 1 of January 28 (1st regiment, Col. Dyer) directs company commanders to assemble their commands at their respective armories, in full dress uniform, with knapsacks packed and blankets rolled, for inspection by the colonel commanding, at 8 o'clock p. m., on the following dates, viz.: E, Jan. 30; A, Feb. 7; B, 19; C, 11; D, 12; F, 18; G, 6; H, 25.

#### VARIOUS ITEMS.

—The Directors of the National Rifle Association will hold a regular monthly meeting on February 5 at 3 o'clock p. m.

—The American Rifle Team of 1877 have decided to shoot for the Centennial trophy during the month of September next, date and place to be decided hereafter.

—The 22d New York will drill by division at the armory, Fourteenth street, as follows: Cos. A, B and G, on Monday, Feb. 4 and 18; D, F and H, Tuesday, Feb. 5 and 19; C, E, I and K, Wednesday, Feb. 6 and 20.

—The 71st New York are directed to assemble, in fatigue uniform, at the armory as follows: Cos. B, K and G, Jan. 30 and March 4; H and D, Feb. 7 and 15; E, Feb. 15, E, Feb. 16 and March 29. Lieut.-Col. Chadcock and Major McAlpin will assume command on alternate evenings. Assembly at 8 o'clock p. m. sharp.

—The Officers and non-commissioned officers of Co. K, 7th New York, are directed to assemble at the armory, on the evenings of Saturday, February 2, 9, 16 and 23, for theoretical instruction. The first lesson will comprise the school of the soldier, not including the bayonet exercise.

—The following additional subscriptions have been added to the New Armory Fund of the 7th New York, viz.: Rutherford Stayesant, Kahn Loeb and Co., Shoe and Leather Bank, each \$25; Oriental Bank, Irving Bank, Citizens' Ins. Co., John Anderson and Co., Weston and De Billior, Samuel Slater and Sons, John H. Starin, each \$100.

—The first of the series of band concerts under the auspices of the 7th New York, held at the armory on January 28, was, as usual in all the regimental undertakings, a complete success. Nearly 2,500 tickets were received at the door; the company rooms were beautifully decorated with flags and flowers, while the main hall in which the musical programme was rendered was almost uncomfortably filled with the promenaders. The second concert will take place on Saturday evening, February 8.

—The National Lancers give a military levee at their armory in Boston Wednesday evening, February 13. The reception committee are Major L. Slade, W. F. White, T. J. Pierce and A. Dearborn, Capt. G. S. Hoyt, A. Guild, S. Wilmarth, O. H. P. Smith, C. A. Kimball, A. L. Sanborn, T. W. Neal, G. E. Richardson, C. E. Emery, Lieut. C. F. Thurston and A. F. Nettleton, Sergts. J. H. Allard, W. Dailey and Mr. G. White.

—The several companies of the 11th regiment are directed to assemble for battalion drill as follows: Cos. D, A, B, H, and F, on Tuesdays, Feb. 5, 12, and 26; Cos. C, G, E, I, and K, on Wednesdays, Feb. 6, 13, and 27. The officers and non-commissioned officers are ordered to assemble at the armory in fatigue uniform for theoretical instruction and drill on Fridays, Feb. 8 and 15, at 8 p. m. The officers will assemble in fatigue uniform for instruction on Tuesdays, Feb. 12, at 8 p. m.

—In the course of a debate in the Pennsylvania Legislature, on bill to pay the riot expenses of the National Guard, some of the Senators were anything but complimentary to the bravery or soldierly conduct of a majority of the members of the National Guard of Pennsylvania. Senator Herr, of Harrisburg, went so far as to say that while some of the officers had done their duty others had acted in the most cowardly manner. In this position, adds the correspondent of the N. Y. Times, "he is fully sustained by all who observed the conduct of the troops stationed near this city during the railroad troubles of the past summer." The bill gives extra pay to all but field and staff officers.

—Under the heading of "A Distinguished Visitor," the Atlanta (Ga.) Tribune says: Major-General Franklin Townsend, of Albany, N. Y., Adjutant-General of the National Guard of that State, has been visiting his relatives, Major Wm. B. Rochester, U. S. A., and family, in Atlanta, Ga. He visited the scene of the bloody "Battle of Atlanta," July 22, 1864, in which his brother-in-law, Gen. Wm. Henry T. Walker, fell, just before Gen. McPherson was wounded and near the same spot. General Townsend left for home delighted with his visit to Atlanta. He was here some thirty years ago, on his way to bring home from Mexico Gen. Walker (then captain 6th Infantry), who was terribly wounded in the battles of that war. Atlanta was then a small place, and had no railroad connection with Montgomery, Alabama.

—Commissioner Campbell has reported in favor of converting the Fifth Avenue reservoir into a brigade armory. The Commissioner says that the interior space would give ample accommodation for an entire brigade of militia composed of three infantry regiments, a battery of artillery, four troops of cavalry, and a brigade staff, and also for the headquarters of two other brigades.



and a division. He also states how the building and rooms can be arranged. Two of the main drill rooms can be separated by a movable partition or screen, so that they may be readily converted into a single room 168 feet wide and 383 feet long. There will be eight entrances, one to each of the drill rooms, opening on Fortieth and Forty-second streets, and one to each armory building or section. The estimated cost of converting the reserve into an armory, according to the plan described, is \$450,000, to which must be added ten per cent. for contingencies, making the total \$500,000.

—Mr. W. H. Gilder writes to the *Volunteer Service Gazette* to contradict all those who condemn the "American breech-loading match rifle" as being useless as a breech-loader unless it is cleaned out after each shot. He says: "With the Sharp rifle I have, I fired thirty-five shots at 1,000 yards without cleaning. The day was a very trying one, on account of a troublesome fish-tail wind blowing between 11 and 12:30 o'clock. In the first ten rounds I scored 38 points. In the second ten, 30. The third ten rounds were with bullets of my own make (550 grains), and the result was as follows: 5553555555—43. Thursday, 2d instant, I fired twenty shots, wiping out after each shot—the first three being used as blowing off shots, to get the barrel to a proper temperature; in the remaining seventeen shots, I had 14 bulls, 1 inner, and two napsles. I then fired ten rounds without wiping out, and scored 41 as follows: 4044455555—41. There was a fresh breeze from the left, and my wind-gauge varied from 18 to 22. My opinion is, that the rifle will shoot as well without cleaning as with, if proper cartridges be used. I have a military rifle of the same pattern. As to the loading and extracting, it is equal to, if not better than, any breech loader I have seen."

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SILL.—There is no order or regulation, so far as we are aware, forbidding the publication for private circulation of your experiences at West Point.

"COLORED SOLDIER OF 14 YEARS."—There is not sufficient evidence that the remarks you criticize were ever made, and in any case we cannot undertake the responsibility of publishing an anonymous reply to them.

SECOND C. N. G., asks: Will you inform me through your columns as to the meaning of No. 59, page 47, of Upton's Infantry Tactics, there being a difference of opinion regarding it? Do the men in executing a wheel on a movable pivot look toward the marching flank and touch toward the pivot as in wheeling on a fixed pivot? Par. third in No. 59 says the wheel is executed as on a fixed pivot, with the exception of the length of the step of the pivot man. The last paragraph in No. 59 says the guide is on the marching flank. Do the men touch towards the guide or toward the pivot man in wheeling on a movable pivot? Ans.—See answer to 71st New York in *JOURNAL* of December 1, 1877; it covers all your points.

E. L. H., New York, states: Two questions have been under consideration in my company which, by reason of wide division of opinion, must be decided by competent authority. Will you act that part for me? First, Is there anything in the Regulations, new or old, which gives the commandant of a company military control over the individuals of his company at all times whether in civilian's dress or the contrary? Second, In case a captain of a company has been detailed as recruiting officer of his regiment by the commandant, is he still captain *de facto* of his company, exercising all powers as previous to his detail? Ans.—First, The captain of a company has military control over the members of his command at all times. Second, Unless relieved by orders from competent authority, a captain would exercise the same control over his company as previous to the detail.

#### GENERAL DE BRACK'S RECOLLECTIONS.

SOME time since, the late Marquis of Tweeddale, being desirous of supplying the officers of the British army with a practical manual of the details of outpost and other duties devolving upon troops employed in covering the movements of an army in the field, selected General de Brack's recollections, which, at his request, was translated by Major Hale and Captain Hobson. General de Brack was a distinguished Cavalry officer of the first French Empire. After Waterloo he retired, but in 1830 was again appointed to the command of a regiment. Anxious that his officers and men should profit as speedily as possible by his experience, he hastily put together the pages of which some extracts are given in the *Volunteer Service Gazette*. He says among other things: "An officer should qualify and instruct himself if he wishes to make his way; let him employ every available moment in learning his profession in the minutest details; he ought to know how to do everything a private soldier has to do. In garrison, his Colonel should satisfy himself that he knows how to groom a horse, and clean his arms and equipment. One cannot give orders on a subject of which one is ignorant. A Cavalryman who knows what he is about always carries in his wallet, first salt, then pepper, onions, and garlic; with these seasonings one can eat almost anything. . . . A little tin saucepan is the greatest treasure in a campaign. I have known horsemen who never seemed to want anything, and yet only carried about their little saucepan with them, for the loan of which they always had part of what was cooked in it."

The chapter on the Pipe is so good, and so consolatory to smokers, that we give it in full:

A liking for the pipe should be encouraged in a Cavalry soldier.

Q.—Why?

A.—Because the pipe keeps him awake. A pipe is a minor distraction which, far from preventing a Cavalry soldier from doing his duty, helps him, and renders it less burdensome. It soothes him, occupies his spare time and thoughts, and keeps him in bivouac and close to his horse. Whilst a man is smoking his pipe, seated on a heap of hay or grass, no one will attempt to steal his horse's food and give it to another; he is sure that his horse feeds and does not get kicked; the provisions cannot be stolen from his wallet, he notices repairs needed in his saddle, the bad packing of his kit, etc. He watches his comrade's horse without any trouble, while the man for whom he performs this service can go for any water, forage, or provisions which are required.

The time for relieving guard arrives and you set out. Then sleep is forbidden. What a resource is the pipe then; it keeps you awake, passes the time, makes rain seem less chilly, hunger and thirst less keen, etc.

And if you have long night marches after the fatigue of a busy day, nothing keeps you awake better at such times, when overpowering drowsiness is real suffering and causes numerous and serious injuries to your horse, than the habit of smoking.

A pipe obliges you to carry steel and tinder, etc., and with this steel and tinder we also light the bivouac fire.

On service, when men are reduced to feeble resources, there are no trifles which are without importance. A pipe is a means of barter, of affording enjoyment, and of rendering service in our life of fraternal relationship; lent in certain cases it becomes a source of help.

Whatever Aristotle and his learned clique may say, smoke, and make your men smoke.

**A NATIONAL MILITIA.**—Mr. Ross, of New Jersey, has introduced a bill in the House which has been in the course of preparation for some time, for the encouragement of the organization of the militia force in the several States and Territories. It provides that each officer and private in the organized and uniformed militia of the States and Territories shall receive \$35 per annum. Before this is paid the Secretary of War is to be satisfied that each militiaman has performed ten days' service in the field in each year in addition to the ordinary company drills in armories. It is further provided that there shall be a detail of ten Regular Army officers for the inspection of the militia while in camp. This is to operate as a check on the reports made by the State officers. Arms are to be furnished to the militia in quantities deemed proper by the Secretary of War. The States are required to uniform and bear the expense of the forces, except when the latter are called into the Service of the General Government. The bill is to go into effect June 1, 1879, and appropriates \$3,000,000 for that purpose.

**THE UPPER MISSOURI.**—Ernest Ingersoll, writing to *Forest and Stream*, from Wy. Agency, on the Upper Missouri, says: Twenty-five miles below Fort Benton a widening of the bottoms, broad islands of sand, and a long line of trees under the abrupt northern shore, indicated the delta of the Marias, a large tributary from the Northwest. On these bluffs a trading-post was built as early as 1831, by James Kipp, an American Fur Company's agent, whose name is perpetuated in some rapids below, and whose son led the famous Baker Massacre against the Piegiens. The river is a limpid stream, flowing over a pebbly bed, the bottoms being lined with a heavy growth of trees and bushes. A little way up this stream occurred a most sanguinary conflict between Gros Ventre and Crow Indians in 1849. Twenty-two Crows were concealed in a hollow for the purpose of stealing horses from the Gros Ventres' camp, consisting of two hundred lodges. Being discovered, the Gros Ventres surrounded them and threw up dust in the air, which was carried by a strong wind in the faces of the Crows, blinding them, when the Gros Ventres rushed upon them and killed the whole number without losing a man. Among the Crows was a Gros Ventre who had been taken prisoner in early life. He begged for his life, told who he was, but against him, very properly, they executed their wrath; telling him he had no business to come on such an errand against his own people. The Crows fought bravely.

**HYDRAULICS IN WARFARE.**—At a recent trial of the twenty-five ton barbette guns of the British war ship *Téméraire*, four rounds were fired against time from the after-gun, for the purpose of testing the rapidity with which the gun could be loaded, laid and discharged, and also of proving the stability of the hydraulic gear. From fire to fire the times were two minutes, one and a half minutes, and one and a half minutes, the four rounds being fired in five minutes and twenty-five seconds, including twenty seconds for a miss fire. The gun was worked by five seamen gunners. No. 1 laid and fired the gun electrically, two men attended to the elevating gear, one man took charge of the levers for lifting the gun and rotating the platform, and a fifth managed the rammer and shot hoist. They had had little experience of the new drill, and with a more familiar acquaintance with the machinery greater rapidity of practice will result. With skill, two movements—turning and raising—can be made to occur simultaneously, the same as with an hydraulic crane; and, as the gun can be laid while it is being loaded, the number of rounds that can be discharged within a given time may be greatly increased. Eleven rounds were subsequently fired from the forward barbette gun, and in this case, in consequence of the inferior training of the men, the practice was not so good. Seven rounds were first fired at the target deliberately, and the concluding four rounds were fired for rapidity, the times being one minute twenty-three seconds, two minutes forty-seven seconds, and one minute thirty-six seconds, the whole occupying ten minutes, including twenty seconds for a hitch in connection with the rammer. Although the recoil of the gun amounts to ninety-six foot tons, this enormous force was so completely absorbed by the springs and water presses that the recoil upon the cylinders did not exceed an average of twelve inches. After the trials of the barbette guns had finished, the broadside batteries, which consist of two twenty-five ton guns and four eighteen ton guns, were fired separately, and also simultaneously, by electricity from the conning tower. The firing was somewhat wild. Worked by hand gear, each gun company consisted of sixteen men; and the necessity of turning, tripping, and running in before the guns could be loaded, contrasted strikingly with the silence, ease, and regularity with which the turret guns had been worked.

The Carroll Institute, a Roman Catholic Institution of Washington, report that during the year 1877, 3,091 papers and periodicals were mailed to 66 distant posts and stations to Roman Catholic soldiers and sailors. The President of the Institute, Mr. John Bingham, in his annual report, says: The Third Annual Convention of the National Union was held in New York City during the month of May. Upon which occasion, among other favorable expressions of opinion from the Catholic Young Men of America, the custom of donating our papers and periodicals to the soldiers and sailors was commended and deemed worthy of imitation by all societies in the Union. This project, if practically carried out, will prove an untold blessing to our Army and Navy, of which we are informed that fully two-thirds are Catholics. As there is but one Catholic Chaplain in the U. S. Service, it is obvious what need there is for all the aid that we and our sister societies can render, in order to keep alive in the hearts of the men that faith which is so essential, and so well calculated to make them better men and truer soldiers. At the same time it is a practical application of the National Union's motto, "God and our Neighbor."

#### TODLEBEN ON THE FALL OF PLEVNA.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Vossische Zeitung*, writing from Tutenitza on the 15th of December, communicates to that paper an account of an interesting conversation with Gen. Todleben on the siege of Plevna. The correspondent describes the General as a calm, reflective-looking man, very different in appearance and manner from the hot-headed and thoughtless Russian officers by whom he is surrounded, and speaking German fluently.

"When I came here," he said, "I was continually tormented by anxiety lest Osman should make his sortie too soon, before the fortifications were strong enough. I was from the beginning opposed to the theory of taking his strong positions by storm. It was not I, but hunger, that conquered him, though this was only rendered possible by surrounding him so firmly and effectively as was at length done by our trenches. Plevna teaches the lesson that the modern system of defence is quite different from what it used to be, and possesses enormous advantages against an assailant. You have in the Vosges five or six Plevnas."

"In order to be able to surround a natural position or an entrenched camp, and at the same time to continue to execute great strategic plans, it is necessary for the assailant to bring twice as many soldiers into the field as are required by the defending army. To take such fortified position by storm is with modern firearms impossible, or at least inopportune. One should never require more of an officer or a soldier, however brave he may be, than it is possible for him to do; but the demands made upon our officers and soldiers in the storming of Plevna exceeded the bounds of possibility. Even when such a strategical adventure succeeds, it is a mistake. Thoughtless men must say, let ten thousand troops fall, so long as we get the position; but they do not consider that, if the position is lost, not only that ten thousand men fall, but fifty thousand are demoralized."

"My chief care was so to arrange matters that whatever Osman might attempt a sortie a sufficient mass of troops should at once be concentrated to oppose him. With this object, I had a double row of trenches and redoubts made around Plevna, so that while the first was being attacked at any point the concentration might be made behind the second." The correspondent having asked the general whether he thought that Osman might, under favorable circumstances, have saved part of his army, Todleben replied: "No; Osman made the sortie with 25,000 men, the whole force under his command, except some 5,000 or 6,000 reserves. If he had attacked us with half that force it might have been said that the cause of his defeat was the numerical superiority of his enemy. Osman knew this, and attempted a brilliant and daring attack with his whole army; but success was hopeless."

"In my opinion Osman made a great strategical mistake in not attempting his sortie sooner; and I never could understand why he did not at once evacuate Plevna after the capture of the positions at Teliche. Even so late as six weeks ago he would have had a chance of saving part, if not the whole, of his army; but he let the opportunity pass, and we labored incessantly to close him in more and more firmly. When such a position as Plevna cannot be relieved from without, the besieged army should endeavor at once to withdraw from it, as the besiegers can strengthen their circle of fortifications every day until the garrison is forced by hunger to capitulate."

Apropos of this, it appears that a very interesting correspondence between the Grand Duke Nicholas and Ghazi Osman, dated some weeks prior to the fall of Plevna, has just been published, and is evoking all kinds of comments. It appears that the Grand Duke, seeing the futility of attempting the capture by main force, and extremely jealous of Todleben, whose plan of a regular siege he had violently opposed, addressed himself directly to Osman, notwithstanding Todleben's remonstrances, who justly declared that requests for a voluntary surrender would only strengthen Osman's determination of extreme resistance. The Mu-chir, in his reply, couched in the most polite terms, but interspersed with a touch of biting sarcasm, proved himself as equal an adept with the pen as with the sword. He reminded his Highness that he should not be worthy of such a distinguished adversary, if he counselled his soldiers to surrender before the last effort to break through the chain of the besiegers had failed. An official rectification is given to the statement of ill-treatment of Russian prisoners in Turkey. Lieut. Puschtschin, a naval officer who fell into the hands of the Turks on a torpedo expedition, and Col. Klevesahl, captured at Elena, both confirm the kindness of the Turks to their Russian captives. The colonel, in a letter to his wife, transmitted by the intermediary of the German Ambassador at Constantinople, expressly states: "Do not be anxious. I am well treated and lack nothing."

The *Dublin Irish Times* says: "In view of the possibilities, it is not encouraging to learn that the number of desertions from the British army during last year amounted to the enormous total of 7,500. Taking it that many of these were repetitions of the offence, the figures are still a lamentable fact. Germany and France, with their immense armies, record an average of yearly desertions each not exceeding 300. And in these countries conscription is the law. The soldier is, by comparison with his British brother, miserably paid, poorly fed—this, however, is matter of great doubt—not well clad, and sternly and heavily disciplined and worked. The British soldier, in fact, may be said to live an idle and luxurious life when his lot is contrasted with the *tourneur* of the Republic or the *pickelhaube* of the Empire. But such is the difference in the *esprit de corps*, or the martial mind, or whatever it is that seems wanting in the nation of shopkeepers."



## FOREIGN ITEMS.

REOUF PASHA has started a subscription at Constantinople for the purpose of erecting a monument in commemoration of Osman Pasha's defence of Plevna.

COL. VALENTINE BAKER is reported to have been made a Ferik, or Lieut.-General, for the masterly manner in which he covered the retreat of the Turkish army from Kamari.

OSMAN PASHA was, it appears, shot through the calf of the leg, the bullet wounding his horse. It is a mere flesh wound, and he is expected to have completely recovered in a month.

A DESPATCH from the American Consul at Shanghai reports that an appalling famine is raging throughout four provinces of North China. Nine millions people are reported destitute, and children daily sold for food.

THE Italian iron-clad *Christoforo Colombo*, *Affondatore*, and *Duilio* have been provided with Martin's self-canting anchor, and the inventor has been ordered to fit the same ground gear to the *Dandolo*, *Italia*, and *Lepanto*.

MR. THOMAS A. EDISON, the inventor of the telephonograph, asserts that he has constructed a new and larger machine, which not merely speaks with clearness, but loud enough to be audible at a distance of 175ft.

THE German army estimates for the ensuing year show an increase of 2,000,000 marks, and those of the navy for ordinary purposes 3,500,000, without counting extraordinary expenditure, which will in all probability be covered by a loan.

In order to encourage the study of naval architecture and marine engineering there is some probability of Lloyd's making an annual grant for the assistance of a certain number of private students at the Royal Naval College at Greenwich.

THE number of desertions from the British army during the year 1877 was again large, 7,500 deserters were advertised for. This number shows a decrease, though a slight one, on the previous year (1876), when the number of desertions amounted to 7,700.

ACCORDING to an Austrian military paper—the *Vedette*—some bread of the same kind as that issued to the Russian troops in Bulgaria was recently obtained and examined by the military Intendance in Vienna. A careful analysis showed that the bread contained nineteen per cent. of sawdust and fourteen per cent. of sand.

THE North German *Gazette* remarks that the persevering efforts made by Germany to supply all the materials for her own war vessels have been so far crowned with success, that with the exception of a single article the ships now built for the German navy are the products of German yards and workshops alone. The article forming the sole exception referred to are gutta-percha valves.

EMPEROR WILLIAM, upon receiving the congratulations of the generals of the army on the occasion of the New Year, observed that he had again during the past year had opportunities of convincing himself of its excellence, and he thanked those around him who had had a large share in perfecting its organization. His Majesty, in taking leave of the generals, said, "What next year may bring forth we cannot tell."

A REPORT has been current that the Russian government have entered into negotiations with the other Baltic Powers for the purpose of converting the Baltic, with the concurrence of such Powers, into a *mare clausum*, into which war vessels of Powers not possessing a Baltic seaboard shall not be permitted to enter. The St. Petersburg *Herald* says that the rumor is correct; Russia has, in fact, suggested such an arrangement to the neighboring Powers.

A SCHEME is in preparation at the British War Office by which it is contemplated further to increase the efficiency of the army and improve the position of the non-commissioned officers. In a recent general order on the commutation of pensions reference is made to warrant officers, a rank which does not at present exist in the army, and it is by the creation of that rank, intermediate between the commissioned and non-commissioned officers, that the latter are to be encouraged and rewarded.

It is stated by the London *Globe* that the Russian government has resolved to add 100 torpedo vessels to what is now termed at Cronstadt the "Torpedo Fleet." In most respects these new steamers will be similar to those constructed at St. Petersburg during the summer for service on the Danube. Their length will be 75ft., indicated horse-power, 220, and speed, seventeen knots an hour. The hull and machine will be constructed of soft steel, and the vessel will be intended solely for the use of Harvey spar torpedo.

SINCE 1861, when a 6-pounder gun was bought by the Turkish government from Herr Krupp for experimental purposes, no fewer than 1,315 field pieces and 501 siege and garrison guns have been supplied to the Porte from the factories at Essen. Of the field pieces, 304 were 9-centimetre guns, 392 were 8-centimetre, 100 were 8-7-centimetre, one was a 7-8 centimetre, and 100 were 7-5-centimetre guns. Of the heavier ordnance, one was a 35-5-centimetre gun, 12 were 28 centimetre, 10 were 26-centimetre, 50 were 24-centimetre, 28 were 21-centimetre, 230 were 18 and 50 were short 15-centimetre, and 120 were 12-centimetre guns.

THE Italian government is actively pushing on the erection of detached forts round Rome, the principal of which are on the Monte Mario, on the Via Appia, near the tomb of Cecilia Metella, outside the Porta Maggiore, and on the road to Tivoli. The works consist hitherto in fosses, encampments, lines of communication, wells, and the levelling of mounds which prevent a clear prospect around each of the fortifications. These are of different designs, but chiefly consist of pentagons or irregular polygons with bastioned

fronts, and are generally placed where two or more roads meet leading to the city.

THE *Broad Arrow* says that "there is a possibility of another 'Eastern Question.' It seems that Siam, like Nepal and Burmah, formerly paid tribute to China, and after some omissions of the homage, has finally ceased altogether to recognize the Chinese suzerainty. A demand has been made upon the little kingdom to send an ambassador as formerly to Peking; this the Siamese refuse, and, according to latest accounts, are rapidly preparing for war. Forts are being put in order; cannon and military stores are being overhauled; and the Siamese even boast of possessing the latest warlike appliances, Gatling guns and torpedoes.

"We understand," says *Vanity Fair*, "that the English government has within the last ten days addressed to the French government a very important communication with regard to Belgium. This communication sets forth that Lord Derby has been confidentially informed by the Belgian government that certain representations have recently been made to it by Prussia as regards the insecure position of Belgium under the sole guarantee of European treaties, and certain proposals as to Belgium joining the German Empire. The English despatch, we are informed, goes on to say that in case France is prepared to resist the transaction suggested, England will stand by her."

PRESIDING at the twenty-fifth annual meeting of the London Association of Foremen Engineers, Mr. J. Newton, C.E., said that a ship-of-war was a floating machine shop; almost every operation on board was performed by the agency of steam propelled machinery. That machinery was necessarily managed and controlled by engineers, who were not contented with the station of life to which it had pleased "my Lords" to call and appoint them. Mr. Newton said the utmost dissatisfaction existed among the steam officers of Her Majesty's navy, and that what was needed was to place those officers on a footing similar to that which was occupied by the medical officers.

WITH reference to the two new Orders which have been created by the Queen—namely, that of the Indian Empire and that of the Crown of India—Dr. Robert Mair, editor of *Debrett's "Peerage,"* says that they are not Orders of Knighthood, and that there will be only one grade in each. The gentlemen who have been nominated Companions of the first named Order will take precedence immediately after the Companions of St. Michael and St. George, and will employ the initials "C.I.E." to signify their dignity. The ladies upon whom the second mentioned decoration has been conferred will neither gain a title nor increased precedence, nor will they use initials to indicate their admission as "members" of the Order.

THE *Avenir Militaire* calls attention to the inequality which exists in the French service as regards promotion from the ranks. In the artillery, engineers, and military train any non-commissioned officer counting two years of rank before December 31 can be proposed for a sub-lieutenancy. In the cavalry and the infantry, non-commissioned officers may present themselves under similar conditions; but they can only be promoted after having followed—first, the technical lectures at Saumur; second, those of Avord, and receiving, as it were, a new diploma. The course of lectures at Avord lasts a year, that at Saumur eighteen months. The consequence is that in the infantry three years grade is required, and in the cavalry three years and a half.

THE London *Times* says: One of the most remarkable additions to the British navy recently is the *Lightning* torpedo vessel. Many have witnessed this grey little vessel run down the river during the summer, on experimental trips, and have been astonished at her speed. She is only 84 feet long by 10 feet 10 inches broad, and has attained a speed of 19-4 knots an hour. It is understood that 15 of these vessels are either under construction or are to be ordered, and it may be observed that the builders are prepared to construct these vessels with a speed of 25 knots an hour. Numerous experiments have been made during the year to test their value. For instance, it had been remarked that a vessel of this kind on the Danube, though pierced by bullets, did not sink. A curious trial was therefore determined on in the summer, viz., a cold-blooded experiment of the same kind on a boat under construction. A rifle-bullet was accordingly fired about a foot under water through the side of the vessel into the stoke-hole. At a speed of 10 knots it was found that the water hardly entered, while at her mean speed of 18 knots she was perfectly safe. A novel invention of a similar character has been under consideration lately which is not regarded as impracticable, though it aims, neither more or less, at the construction of a submarine vessel. Its object is to move under water entirely and lodge torpedoes under the bottom of an enemy's ship or in his waters.

MR. E. J. REED, M. P., in a recent address to his constituents said that on testing the question of the stability of the *Inflexible* he found that the vessel had little or no stability apart from her unarmored ends. He did his best to persuade the authorities to rectify the errors of design, but failed. Ultimately the question came before Parliament, and a Committee of Inquiry was appointed by the Admiralty. That committee was not, as it was called, a Committee of Experts, nor was it an independent committee, for three out of the four members were in the active employment and in the pay of the Admiralty, while the fourth is in the enjoyment of an Admiralty pension. They were high-minded gentlemen, but it was only reasonable to expect that they would make matters look as favorable to the Admiralty as they fairly could. He had, when all private efforts failed, joined in the public protests made by the *Times*, and the result was that not one future ship would, in the face of the committee's advice, ever be laid down in this country with the

dangerous imperfections which he had fought against; and the fourth ship which Parliament had voted the money for had not been commenced on the plan intended, but would be laid upon a new and improved plan, which would exclude the dangerous element he had complained of. The *Ajax* and *Agamemnon*, too, must undergo considerable alteration, in fact, alterations had already been made in the *Ajax*, and he hoped that much more radical improvement would still be made, and finally the *Inflexible* herself would be altered.

RUSSIAN FINANCES.—The report of the Controller of the Empire of Russia for 1876 shows that the ordinary receipts, which were estimated at 557,000,000 roubles, or about \$348,000,000, were, in fact, \$349,500,000; but the ordinary expenditure, which was estimated at \$343,750,000, showing a surplus of a million sterling, was swollen by supplementary credits to \$358,200,000, showing a deficit on the actual revenue of \$8,800,000. But this is the result, dealing only with what is considered ordinary income and expenditure. In addition there was an extraordinary outlay for the mobilisation of the army amounting to \$31,875,000, which falls to be added to the above deficit on the ordinary budget. Against an actual receipt of, in round numbers, 350 millions, there was in fact an outlay of 390 millions, making a deficit of 40 millions, of which nearly ten millions were not directly due to the war. In other words, in the year just before the war broke out, Russia had rather fallen off from the high financial level it had reached a year or two before, when there was ordinarily a surplus. It had again fallen back into the mire of a deficit, one of small amount it is true, but enough to indicate that Russian financial management is still, even in ordinary years, far from being of the best kind. The London *Daily News*, which presents these figures, says: The whole additional outlay, and the whole amount of the temporary deficiency of revenue, must be met by loans, or by an issue of an inconvertible paper, which is still more injurious to the country than permanent loans, and which must eventually be got rid of by that means. Already Russia has issued three such loans. In all, the permanent borrowing amounts to over fifty millions sterling, and will cost Russia annually over 2½ millions sterling. The present deficit of the budget, whatever else is done or not done, will be so much increased. But Russia in addition has overdrawn its account with the Imperial Bank to the amount on the 1st inst. of 280 million roubles, or, say, thirty millions sterling. The cost of this overdraft, in the depreciation of the medium in which the taxes are paid, and in the general disturbance and disorganization of the industry of the country, cannot certainly be less than other two or three millions sterling a year, so that the annual Russian deficit in consequence of the war cannot well be less than five or six millions sterling. A few months more of war must add greatly to this sum, while the tendency of the war, as all past experience has shown, will probably be to encourage the extravagance of the spending departments and in that manner still further increase the deficit. We have already seen that these departments in Russia do not need much encouragement. How is Russia to meet so great an addition to its annual burdens? We should not say it is beyond her means, knowing how rapid her material growth has been during the last ten years, and how much can be done by a great State in a few years of peace; but that Russia must be strained, and greatly strained, as the result of the present war is beyond all question. The best chance for her financiers lies in the possibility that necessity and bad credit may enforce economy. The spending departments may be compelled to cut their coat according to their cloth; and that great economy is possible, if they do, is of course shown by the rapid growth of the expenditure, which had so much to do, as we have seen, with the deficit of the year before the war. Whatever plan is tried, the difficulties of Russian finance must be very great.

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## MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages and Births FIFTY CENTS each and the signature and address of the party sending must accompany the notice.]

HOYT-CHAVENS.—On the 17th Jan., at the residence of the bride's father, Dr. J. F. Chavens, U. S. Indian Agent, Cheyenne River Agency, Dakota, by the Rev. Henry Smith, Lieut. RALPH W. HOYT, 11th U. S. Infantry, and Miss MINNIE CHAVENS. No cards.

## DIED.

Brief announcements will be inserted under this head without charge. Obituary notices and resolutions should be paid for at the rate of two cents a word, unless it is intended to leave the question of their insertion to the discretion of the Editor.

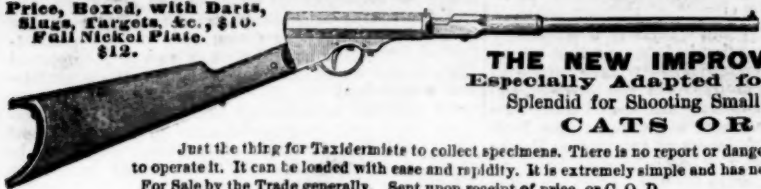
CURTIS.—At Chicago, January 19, JAMES CURTIS, Major U. S. Army (Retired), in the 47th year of his age.

ELLIOTT.—At York, Penn., Dec. 23, 1877, in the 87th year of her age, FRANCES VAUGHAN ELLIOTT, widow of the late Com. Jesse D. Elliott, U. S. Navy, and mother of Gen. W. L. Elliott, U. S. Army. Norfolk, Va., papers please copy.

TREMAINE.—At Fort Dodge, Kansas, Jan. 19, 1878, SARAH GARDINER, the beloved wife of Dr. W. S. Tremaine, U. S. Army.



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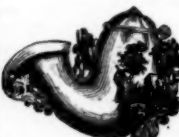
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